

THE DECLINE OF BRITISH INFLUENCE IN THE FAR EAST.

The *Times* is doing good service in drawing attention to the decline of British influence in the Far East since the China-Japan war, and it is to be hoped the various Chambers of Commerce throughout Great Britain will take the matter up and bring sufficient pressure to bear on Lord SALISBURY to induce him to take energetic action. A strong foreign policy is generally expected from Lord SALISBURY, with his overwhelming parliamentary majority, and if such a policy were adopted we in the Far East would share in its benefits. But so far as Lord SALISBURY individually is concerned the expectation of great things rests on a very slender foundation and it will only be under strong pressure that he will act. The foreign policy of the last Conservative administration was not characterised by any particular vigour, but, on the contrary, by very considerable weakness so far as the Far East was concerned. So will it be again, unless strong pressure be brought to bear. Lord SALISBURY, in fact, does not relish the turmoil of a row, he loves peace and quietness, and as long as possible would prefer to leave things alone. When thoroughly roused we believe he would act effectively, but a good deal of rousing is wanted, as is seen by the history of the Kucheng affair. It seems clear now that the statement telegraphed out by Reuter that the punishment of the Viceroy of Fuhkien had been demanded was a joke and that, as we suggested at the time, it was

merely the already disgraced ex-Viceroy of Szechuen that was meant. Liu is in disgrace with his own Government for conduct quite independent of and anterior to the Szechuen riots, and for the foreign powers to ask for his punishment is not much. The case of the Viceroy of Fuhkien is quite different. To ask for his punishment would be to ask for something like substantial reparation for the atrocities that have taken place through his neglect; but we do not believe that any such demand has been preferred or that the criminality of the high officials in Fuhkien has yet been thoroughly recognised by Lord SALISBURY, who is rather disposed to yield to Sir HALLIDAY MACARTNEY's blandishments and accept the view that the Chinese Government really and honestly deplores the outrages. Hence it is important that pressure should be brought to bear on the Foreign Office to open its eyes to the real position in China and the necessity for vigorous action all along the line.

The commercial interests of Great Britain are suffering, as the safety of the persons of foreigners is being jeopardised, by the decadence of British influence and prestige at Peking. The powerful assistance of the *Times* in drawing attention to the position is therefore very welcome. Something must be done—but what? Here, perhaps, we might not find ourselves so closely in agreement with the *Times*, if it means, as Reuter's telegram seems to indicate, that the Foreign Office or the Minister is to canvas for contracts. That subject was discussed some years ago, and although there was at the time, as there is now, some alarm felt at the activity of the

representatives of other powers at Peking soliciting orders from the Chinese Government for their nationals, it came to be felt afterwards that it would be inadvisable for the British Minister to demean his country by following their example. People who do dirty work do it for what they can make by it, but in the long run clean business pays best. What the British Government should do, therefore, is, not to solicit orders for British firms and to being pressure to bear in order to get them, but to prevent China succumbing to such pressure from other quarters and to secure a fair field for British enterprise. Russia and France, with the doubtful concurrence of Germany, have entered into a compact for the undermining of British trade in China, not by ordinary commercial competition, but by diplomatic and political influence. Russia, with the assistance of her allies, saved the Liaotung Peninsula, nominally for China, really for herself, as will be seen in the course of a few years, but for the present the territory remains Chinese, and in return for her services Russia demanded the negotiation of the Chinese loan and no one knows what other advantages besides. At the close of the Franco-Chinese war France tried to secure for herself the exclusive claim to any orders for railways that China might have to give. It ended in an agreement that when China shall have decided to construct railways she shall have recourse to French industry, but that "this claim shall not be looked upon as constituting an exclusive privilege in favour of France." The clause is perhaps less absurd than it looks, for it may be construed as at least securing for France a right to tender. It might not be a bad thing if a similar clause were introduced into the British treaty, not with reference to railways only, but in reference to all financial and industrial matters in which China may have occasion to seek foreign assistance. A fair field and no favour is all that British merchants and manufacturers ask for; to that they are entitled, and it is the duty of the British Government to see that they get it and are not prejudiced by exclusive privileges being granted to the subjects of other powers.

COUNTER-CLAIMS AGAINST CHINESE PLAINTIFFS IN H.B.M. SUPREME COURT IN CHINA.

The decision of the Privy Council in the *Chishima-Ravenna* case, that a counter-claim cannot be brought against a Japanese or Chinese plaintiff in the British court, is calculated to introduce a considerable element of uncertainty into commercial transactions between British subjects and Chinese at the treaty ports. The decision is of less importance as regards Japan than China, for the courts of Japan may be appealed to with some confidence that the decision will be in accordance with equity and the recognised rules of jurisprudence, but the Chinese courts are beneath contempt. An Englishman, therefore, who is sued by a Chinaman and who has a counterclaim against the plaintiff is placed at a decided disadvantage by the fact that the claim and counterclaim cannot be adjudicated upon by the same tribunal, but that he must go to a Chinese court to prosecute the counterclaim. Mr. Vice-Consul SCOTT, in his report on the working of the Mixed Court at Shanghai last year, mentions as still pending two suits brought by the Bank of China and Japan against certain Chinese shareholders who have refused to pay any calls on their shares, and says:—"The constitution of the

"Mixed Court and the powers and authority of the magistrate certainly require revision "to enable him to act as an independent official; at present he is simply the nominee and deputy of the Taotai, who at any moment can intervene and bar a hearing, and in these two actions by the Bank the Taotai wielded his authority accordingly and refused all trial in open Court. The questions thus raised are receiving the careful consideration of the higher authorities, but so far no satisfactory settlement has been arrived at." A court of this kind is obviously a very unsatisfactory tribunal to adjudicate on the many complicated disputes which must necessarily arise in a large commercial centre like Shanghai between foreigners and natives. Foreigners, however, know the risks they run and as a rule take precautions by exacting payment of bargain money or refusing credit altogether. But it was supposed, until the recent judgment of the Privy Council, that in the event of a Chinaman bringing a claim against a British subject and the British subject having also a claim against the Chinaman the two actions would be tried together by the British court. Instead of that it is discovered that while the Chinaman can prosecute his suit in the British court the Englishman must carry his to the Chinese court, a tribunal whose knowledge of law and equity is very primitive and whose honesty is not above suspicion. It is only fair to mention that as regards the Magistrate of the Shanghai Mixed Court, Mr. SCOTT takes the opportunity in his report "to acknowledge his uniform courtesy, and ready co-operation in dealing with all cases, civil and criminal, before his court," which is very satisfactory as far as it goes, but as remarked by Mr. SCOTT in a previous paragraph, the Magistrate is not an independent judge, but a mere nominee of the Taotai. The latter has no foreign assessor to assist, advise, or control him, and is free to deal with the business that comes before him according to his own native ideas. Our Shanghai morning contemporary says:—"It seems hard that a British defendant who has a counter-claim against the Chinese plaintiff should not have the right to urge it in the same court and at the same time as he is being sued, but must make it the subject of a separate action in the Chinese court; but this inconvenience is part of the part of the price he pays for immunity from Chinese jurisdiction." But the inconvenience is not necessarily part of the price and steps should be immediately taken to remove it, at least to the extent of making the Mixed Court at Shanghai an independent and reliable tribunal. In the Chefoo Convention the following "understanding" is embodied:—"The Chinese Government has established at Shanghai a Mixed Court; but the officer presiding over it, either from lack of power, or dread of unpopularity, constantly fails to enforce his judgments. It is now understood that the Tsung-li Yamen will write a circular to the Legations, inviting Foreign Representatives at once to consider with the Tsung-li Yamen the measures needed for the more effective administration of justice at the ports open to trade." The recent decision of the Privy Council renders it more than ever imperative that measures for the more effective administration of justice should at once be taken. The Mixed Court at Shanghai might now at any time be called upon to try, say, a complicated Admiralty suit, and it is entirely incompetent for the task.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

(1st October.)

From to-day the colony is to be put on short allowance of water, to the great inconvenience of the community and danger to the public health. The rainfall of last week has made only a trifling difference to the reservoirs, but it has set the streams running a little and will keep the springs supplied for some time. Although continuous the rain was for the most part gentle and the Observatory reports give only 2.24 inches as the total for the five wet days. Such as it was, the break in the drought was very grateful, but the expectation that it would tide the colony over its difficulties and render the limitation of the water supply unnecessary was unfounded. We are now at the beginning of the dry season, with the reservoirs little more than half-full. In the last two years the reservoirs were full at the end of October, yet there was a water famine before the end of the dry season. From this it will be seen how gloomy are our present prospects. In 1893 and again in 1894 the October rainfall amounted to between seventeen and eighteen inches, but that was exceptional, the ten years' average being only 4.78 inches. On the doctrine of chances we can hardly hope for a repetition of such exceptional rainfall during the present month, and appearances are wholly against it, as the north-east monsoon seems to have set in. We must hope for the best, however, and in the meantime husband our supplies so as to make them hold out as long as possible.

The Tytam reservoir has a gathering ground of 700 acres. The same stream at a point lower down, where its bed is approximately 100 feet above the sea, has a gathering ground of 1,490 acres, of which 700 contribute to the existing Tytam reservoir. In his report last year, from which we take these particulars, Mr. CHADWICK considered the various means of augmenting the supply and recommended that the Tytam dam should be at once raised to the utmost extent that appears safe, and that the dry weather flow of the Tytam stream should be investigated with a view to its complete utilisation if the results were favourable. It was decided to raise the dam of Tytam reservoir by 12 ft. 6 in., increasing the storage capacity by 78,000,000 gallons, and about half the work was accomplished last winter. Unfortunately the rainfall this season has been insufficient to fill the reservoir even to the extent of its original capacity. The outlook, therefore, is a very black one. Would it not be possible at once to make temporary arrangements for pumping from the stream below the Tytam dam? Even in the driest season there is always some flow of water there and in the present emergency any addition to the available supply, however small, would be valuable.

The root of the difficulty, however, lies in the unfortunate policy which has been adopted of laying the water on to all the Chinese houses. Had the former system of allowing the Chinese to draw their supplies from street fountains been adhered to the colony would have been spared the scarcities of the last few years and the calamity with which we are now threatened. From whatever point of view it be considered the policy adopted is a mistake. It renders necessary the adoption of the intermittent system, the evils of which Mr. CHADWICK very forcibly points out in his report already

referred to, namely, (a) the entrance of foul air, foul liquids, and possibly disease germs into the water mains; (b) the growth of fungoids and corrosion in the pipes; (c) the undue wear and tear of the distribution system; (d) the difficulty of equitable distribution of water throughout the waterworks area; (e) the waste of water; (f) the failure to provide efficient fire service. In concluding his remarks under this heading he says that "it is worthy of consideration whether, if restriction has to be adopted, the best plan would not be to shut off all house services, leaving the people to obtain their water from public taps, temporarily erected if necessary, in the manner adopted in England during frosts." We would commend this recommendation to the serious attention of the Government at the present juncture. The cutting off of the house services in the Chinese quarters and wherever the meter system is not rigidly enforced appears an absolute necessity. If that measure were adopted the amount of water at present in storage would, there is good reason to believe, last the colony until the next rainy season commences.

THE OPENING OF SOOCHOW AND HANGCHOW.

According to the special report on Soochow and Hangchow included in the Legation report on the trade of China for 1894, foreigners are not likely to derive much direct benefit from the opening of those places. One or two shipping firms may open agencies, but there is little prospect of direct foreign trade conducted by foreign merchants being established. The Japanese, being able to compete on more even terms with the Chinese and being willing to engage in transactions which the European merchant would consider too petty to give attention to, will no doubt find their profit in the opening of the new ports and flourishing Japanese settlements may be expected to spring up. But although the opening of new ports may not lead to the establishment of European firms, European merchants and manufacturers nevertheless derive substantial benefit from the multiplication of points of contact. Such points facilitate the distributing trade and increase its volume, and though the distributors may be Chinese the foreign manufacturers and merchants benefit correspondingly. If the whole of China were thrown open to foreign trade no one would expect to see foreigners very largely established in the interior. The tendency of the foreign trade would still be to centre at Hongkong and Shanghai, with but increased transport facilities, freedom from squeezes, and the opportunities that would be afforded to Europeans of themselves watching the internal markets and studying their requirements, the volume of trade would be increased. The opening of any new port is therefore to be welcomed as in itself a boon to trade even though it may not lead to the establishment of a single foreign firm.

But it is little use having ports nominally opened if the squeeze system is allowed to continue. As Mr. BYRON BRENNAN says in his report on the trade of Canton, "Much is expected of the opening of new treaty ports, but what would be a greater benefit to our trade is the complete enjoyment of our treaty rights at the ports already opened. To the Chinese official mind, a port is open when a foreign vessel may pass an imaginary line on payment of certain duties. In that sense Canton is open, but in no other." Mr. BRENNAN goes on to describe

the illegal taxation which takes place. Anywhere beyond the Customs examination shed and the fifty acres or so which form the site of the foreign concession, foreign merchandise is liable to further imposts at the discretion of the provincial authorities, so that the import duty levied according to the treaty tariff can only be considered as a first instalment on account of the Central Government, while the provincial officials claim as much more as seems good to them. "If the importer is a Chinaman, as in nine cases out of ten he is, he pays his lekin and other taxes before even landing his goods; if a foreigner, the lekin spies very soon find out on whose account the goods have been imported, or to whom the foreigner sells them, and the Chinaman is called upon to pay his tax often before the merchandise has passed into his possession." The Japanese proposed to make the abolition of lekin a condition of the Shimonoseki treaty, but yielded to the arguments brought forward by the Chinese and waived the demand. It is to be hoped, however, that the matter will be dealt with in some way in the commercial treaty, and that if the tax is not to be abolished it will at least be made a definite and fixed one, instead of each squeeze station being allowed to make what it can out of the goods that pass through.

RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

One good effect of the recent war between China and Japan will be the compulsory advance of the former in certain directions. As we have remarked on previous occasions there is little chance of the Chinese Government inaugurating any reform or undertaking any improvement unless it is seen to be imperative as a matter of state policy or self-preservation. Even under this wholesome stimulus progress in China will always, it is to be feared, be slow and very uncertain; but progress as the result of any influence is better than none at all or retrogression, which is the tendency under Manchu rule. It is more than half a decade since the construction of a system of railways was first sanctioned by the EMPEROR, yet up to the present moment the only lines made are the short railway to Tientsin from Taku and the military line to Shauhai-kwan. The far more important trunk line from the capital to Canton has not even been commenced, and it is probable that it will not be completed during the present century. The construction of the line from Peking to the Yangtze has, however, again been sanctioned and may possibly be inaugurated before long. Intelligence has now been received from Peking by our Shanghai morning contemporary to the effect that the EMPEROR recently gave his consent to a joint proposition of the Viceroy CHANG CHIH-TUNG and Governor CHAO of Soochow to connect that city with Shanghai by a railway. It is proposed, when this is completed, to extend the line northward through Wusieh to Chinkiang, and thence westwards a branch is to be laid to Nanking. Our contemporary adds that a secret Decree has been sent to the two high officials named instructing them to commence work as soon as practicable. This newborn energy in favour of railroads on the part of the active CHANG CHIH-TUNG is due to the desire, it appears, on his part to forestall the Japanese, who are credited with the intention to demand the right to build a railway between Shanghai and Soochow and Hangchow as soon as the two latter ports are opened to foreign trade. By commencing the work themselves before the ports are open the

Viceroy of Nanking hopes to place it out of the power of the Japanese to undertake a highly advantageous work, and rob them of another of the fruits of their victories. These railway concessions given by China are never of much practical use. The French, after the imbroglio of 1884-85, got a stipulation inserted into their new Treaty giving French engineers the preference over others in the making of Chinese railways; but the article, which was vague, did not lay it down that the Chinese were bound to engage French assistance in the construction of railways, but merely stated that they might do so, and as a matter of fact the French were carefully left out in the cold. In like manner the Chinese Government will studiously endeavour, in interpreting the provisions of the new Treaty with Japan, to "keep the word of promise to the ear and break it to the hope." Only, perhaps, the Japanese will not allow themselves to be outwitted and bamboozled; they understand, better than the Western Powers, the wiles and devices of the enemy, and will not readily submit to the same treatment.

THE KUCHENG COMMISSION.

MORE CHINESE DUPLICITY.
THE BRITISH CONSUL INSULTED.
[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]

FOOCHOW, 28th September, 8.20 A.M.

A member of the Kucheng Commission writes that there has been renewed official duplicity, making the Commissioners feel that they had better return to Foochow unless they have more power.

A Hunan soldier insulted Consul Mansfield. The soldier was afterwards punished.

Foochow, 21st September.

There was a sitting of the Court of Enquiry on Saturday, the 7th inst., and several prisoners were examined and re-examined. Wang Uong-tie repeated the former evidence he had given as to his having killed Mr. Stewart, and gave evidence against Ming-chiang-chik and others. To Nong-sei was also brought in again. He confessed to have struck a little one on the leg, which was thought to be Mildred Stewart, and he, too, gave evidence against others. A clever lad of 17 years of age, against whom was a strong suspicion of having been very active in delivering summonses to the Vegetarians, to meet at the fastness, was next brought into Court, but he denied all knowledge of the business, and no information could be got from him. During the sitting "Long-finger-nails" was brought in and shown a seditious piece of poetry which had been found up at the fastness and thought to be his composition, but he vowed he had never seen it before, assuming a look of bland astonishment, as if surprised that he should be suspected of writing anything of the kind.

From this time matters have not gone well with the Commission through Chinese obstructiveness. It suddenly became most difficult to get any evidence from the prisoners, and the Chinese engaged in the enquiry at once assumed an air of utter indifference. Here it was suggested that this change came about on the officials learning that the *Linnet* had left the port, and this is not improbable. At Kucheng the prevailing idea was that an attempt was being made to weary out the Consuls.

At this juncture, it is understood, the Consuls telegraphed to Peking to beg that a mandarin with full powers might be appointed to act with them; and on the 10th instant H'su-h'sing-I, Taotai, appeared on the scene. He seemed in no hurry to disclose his plan of action, but after a day or two informed the Consuls that he was quite ready to order the execution of those convicted of murder if the Consuls would sign an agreement to close the case and ask nothing further. H'su little knew the temper of the men he was making these overtures to.

We have news this week of the execution of seven criminals and hoped to be in possession of particulars this morning, but none have reached us.—*Echo*.

THE REVOLT IN TIMOR.

The steamer *Menmuir*, which arrived on Monday morning from Australia and Timor, brought news of the revolt of natives in Timor. The trouble arose on account of the Governor having tried to compel the people to pay taxes and furnish men for forced labour. The natives obstinately refused to obey the regulations, and the Governor then ordered that all their villages should be destroyed. Upon this the natives rose in rebellion, killing Captain Camara, the Government Secretary, Lieutenants Lagos, Mendes da Silva, Bettencourt, Ensign Flores, four sergeants, twelve soldiers, and one hospital warder.

The native soldiers who were in the Portuguese Government service joined the rebels and took part in the sedition.

Lieut. Mendes da Silva was murdered, but the others were killed in the fighting.

Captain Claudio da Silva and wife, two sergeants' widows, and a few soldiers arrived by the *Menmuir* and went on yesterday to Macao.

All the officers above referred to were married in Macao.

THE TYPHOON AT SWATOW.

THREE VESSELS DAMAGED.

A telegram was received in Hongkong on Friday stating that the *Woosung*, *Chefoo*, and *Hangchow*, all of which belong to the China Navigation Company, had sustained damage at Swatow in Thursday's typhoon. It is believed that two of the vessels collided, but no particulars have yet been received. Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, the agents for the China Navigation Company, had not received any information on the subject on Friday afternoon.

1st October.

The damage sustained by the steamers *Hangchow*, *Chefoo*, and *Woosung* in the gale at Swatow on Thursday was not so serious as was at first feared. It appears the *Hangchow*, on leaving Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's wharf to anchor in the stream, was carried down on to the *Chefoo*, and both were then carried down on to the *Woosung*, causing her to break adrift also, but all three vessels were soon got under control without having sustained any vital injury.

ATTEMPTED MURDER IN STANLEY STREET.

At two o'clock on Friday morning a determined attempt was made to murder a prostitute at 46, Stanley Street. Her name is Wong Tsai, 26 years of age, and on Wednesday night she was visited by a man named Cheung Hoi Mun, who was formerly an interpreter on the *Empress of Japan*, and who was discharged from the vessel that morning. He remained with her all night, went away in the morning, and returned on Thursday night. At two o'clock in the morning the woman was asleep in her bed, when the man woke her up by cutting her face with a razor. Her right cheek had been very severely cut, and her jawbone was laid bare. The man made a desperate effort to kill her and hacked her with the razor about her neck and breast. She struggled to get free of him, and her cries for help were heard by the district watchman and an Indian constable, who entered the house and conveyed the couple to the police station. The woman sustained several ugly wounds in the region of her neck, and lost a large quantity of blood. She was, however, able to give in the charge room a clear account of the attack and added that before the arrival of the police the man attempted suicide by swallowing opium. He vomited in the station, and the pair were afterwards sent to the Government Civil Hospital, where they now lie. At present no cause can be given for the crime, as far as can be ascertained, they had not quarrelled. The woman is in a serious condition, but it is thought that she will recover, and it is expected that the man will soon get over the effects of the opium he swallowed.

It is notified that the Hoihow harbour light may now again be relied upon.

THE POLICE PLAGUE MEDALS.

PRESENTATION YESTERDAY.

On Friday afternoon Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police) presented the medals which had been awarded to those members of the police force who rendered such signal services during the plague last year. The ceremony took place in the billiard room of the Central Police Station, and all the medallists were in attendance.

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, in presenting the medals, said—Officers and men of the Hongkong Police Force, we all regret that H. E. the Governor is unable to be here to-day to present these medals. That pleasing duty has therefore devolved on me. These medals presented by the Hongkong community as a mark of their appreciation for the services rendered by you last year—the year of the Black Plague—you may justly look on and wear with as much pride as any war medal; albeit in the campaign in which they were earned there was no roar of cannon or rattle of musketry, yet men dropped as fast. In the campaign in which you earned these medals, though in the common peril, you were denied the pleasure of striking back at your enemy, that grim reaper Death, portrayed hovering over all on the reverse of your medals. The enemy death came under the name of the Black Plague, an enemy not fought by Englishmen under that name for more than three hundred years; his allies were prejudice bred of ignorance and foul disease born of filth. Your only weapons were fire and whitewash, and though for weeks it seemed about as efficacious as carrying water in a sieve, with the help of the civilian volunteers and brave Shropshire lads and other soldiers, the enemy was routed, and routed so utterly that this year he has barely made a reconnaissance. The community of Hongkong were liberal and generous to us at that time, and now by the gift of these medals they further mark their appreciation of the men who did men's work in the time of trial, nor will such men be ever found wanting in the Hongkong Police.

ANOTHER OUTRAGE IN BRITISH WATERS.

The police have been informed of another audacious outrage by Chinese Customs officials in British waters. On Wednesday afternoon the boat trading between Victoria and Stanley was stopped by a Chinese Customs cruiser and overhauled just off Apichau, in the Lamma Channel. The boat was proceeding to Stanley at the time, and was carrying goods for shops in that village. The officers on the cruiser boarded the boat, captured the master's son, took him away, and peremptorily ordered the boat to follow the cruiser. The master refused, and hoisting his sails continued his journey. Several shots were fired from the cruiser, but none took effect. On arriving at Stanley the master reported the matter to the police, and the Acting Captain Superintendent of Police is now making investigation. This is certainly a most serious case and it is to be hoped that decisive measures will be taken to effectually suppress these disgraceful outrages, which are just now too prevalent.

The *Foochow Echo* of the 21st September says:—The anti-Christian rioting lately reported at Hok-chiang has spread to the Hing-wha district. The mob has attacked two churches at a place called Sieng-In, doing them some damage, and the houses of the native pastors and teachers were plundered. A catechist was severely beaten. In these cases, as at Hok-chiang, the magistrate took no notice, but allowed the rioters to have their way. It would appear that the mandarins are acting on some general plan of allowing the Christians to be persecuted. We hear from Kien-ning-foo that the hospital there has been threatened and that anti-foreign placards have been extensively posted about all over the city and country. The authorities at Kien-ning-foo have sent some soldiers to protect the hospital, which it is to be hoped may result in its remaining untouched.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Thursday afternoon at the offices. Hon. F. A. Cooper (Director of Public Works) presided, and there were also present—Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police), Dr. Atkinson (Acting Colonial Surgeon), Mr. N. J. Ede, and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

MEZZANINE FLOORS.

The report of the Committee concerning the erection of mezzanine floors in new buildings was read, and regulations were passed dealing with the subject.

THE NUISANCE OF FAT BOILING.

The Acting Medical Officer of Health forwarded the following report concerning fat boiling in Circular Pathway:—"That a nuisance exists at 21, Circular Pathway, ground floor, caused by the noxious odours of the fat boiling trade which is carried on there. It is a crowded district and quite unfit for such a trade."

The following minutes were attached:—

Mr. Ede.—I think notice should be given to abate the nuisance, and remove within a reasonable time, say a month, and the by-law re inhabiting such basements put into force.

The Acting Colonial Surgeon—I agree with Mr. Ede.

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police—I agree with Mr. Ede.

On the motion of the President it was resolved to take the action suggested by the Acting Medical Officer of Health.

INSANITARY OPIUM DIVANS.

The Acting Medical Officer of Health made a report on the insanitary condition of opium divans. He said that "the regulations and control of these divans is evidently a matter which can be no longer delayed. It is a question for consideration as to whether they should be dealt with as public houses or as common lodging houses. Most of them profess to be closed at twelve midnight, but it is very evident that the smokers can stay as long as they wish by day or night, and it would probably be better to regulate them in a manner similar to the common lodging houses. The divans are conducted on two systems. Some of the owners procure a licence from the opium farmers at a cost of \$6 a month, and supply accommodation, pipe, and lamp without any charge, the smokers bringing their own opium, and the keeper making his profit entirely out of the sale of the opium dross which he collects from the pipes. The majority supply the opium in pieces at 16 and 32 cash. The business is evidently so lucrative that the possibility of making a small addition to the revenue of the colony by charging for licences to keep divans suggests itself."

The following minutes were attached:—

Mr. Ede—I am in favour of inspection of these places and their sanitary regulation; but I would not interfere with their closing hours.

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police—Different sets of men occupy them at different hours. Don't interfere with hours of closing. They could well be licensed. It appears from section 11 of Ordinance 21 of 1891 that these divans are licensed under certain conditions. What are those conditions?

The Secretary—In past years this question of opium smoking shops or "divans" has been at various times before the Board. That they are in need of stringent regulation is undoubted.

The PRESIDENT—I think this matter opens rather an important question, that is to say, if houses are to be specially licensed in the colony for certain purposes, and a certain number of licences issued, and only a certain number of premises opened, the work of the Board would be considerably harassed. The city has recently been divided into a number of districts and additional inspectors have been appointed for carrying out the provisions of the Sanitary Ordinance. I think with their instructions, and the assistance they have, they ought to be able to keep such a general look-out on the sanitation of the colony that it would be unnecessary, except under special circumstances, to subject any special premises or trade to a special licence. I do not think the question of hours for closing affects the sanitation of the colony. Even if it did, such an interference with the sanitation would, in the ordinary course, come under the

notice of the inspectors, and under these circumstances I feel inclined to postpone any further interference by way of special licences for any of these premises.

The ACTING COLONIAL SURGEON—I find that in 1894 some regulations were drawn up by the Sanitary Board in reference to the sanitary condition of the opium divans. These were issued in the *Government Gazette*, and I think it would be as well to have them reprinted, so that the attention of the inspectors might be drawn to them and the regulations enforced. They evidently have not been carried out, or else the divans could not have got in the condition in which they are reported to be.

The SECRETARY—I do not think they are in force now.

The PRESIDENT—The inspectors will be perfectly justified in calling upon the owners to do anything appertaining to the sanitary condition of the divans. I move that the Colonial Secretary be informed that this Board is of opinion that the present laws affecting the sanitary maintenance of premises in this colony appear sufficient to meet requirements, and that the Board is averse, at the present at any rate, to calling upon the owners to take out special licences. It is quite possible that at present things are not what they ought to be, but the inspectors have had an enormous lot of work to do, but from what I have seen myself and from what I have heard, a decided improvement is being effected in the sanitary condition of the city.

Mr. EDE seconded the motion.

Carried.

THE CATTLE DEPOT AT KENNEDYTOWN.

The Colonial Secretary wrote requesting to know whether the Sanitary Board is prepared to undertake the management and control of the Government cattle depot at Kennedytown upon the expiry of the present lessee's tenure on the 31st December next.

The following minutes were appended:—

Mr. Ede.—The revenue estimated by the Sanitary Superintendent is \$3,200, and the expenses \$684, leaving nett \$2,516. In 1894 the revenue was \$2,580, and the decrease in 1895 is attributed to the bubonic plague, which it is hoped will not recur. Are there any special reasons for changing the present system of letting out the cattle depot? Apart from the question of revenue I am in favour of the Sanitary Board undertaking the arrangement, as it is better for the cattle owners to be in direct contact with the controlling authority.

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police—I agree with Mr. Ede.

The Secretary—I think the cattle market should be managed on the same lines as the sheep and swine markets. If this is done, a small additional staff will be required.

The PRESIDENT proposed that the Colonial Secretary be informed that the Board would be prepared on the expiry of the present lease to take over the management of the depot.

Carried.

LAUNDRY BY-LAWS.

PETITION FROM WASHERMEN.

Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, forwarded a petition which had been sent to him by forty-five washermen in the colony. In a letter the Acting Captain Superintendent of Police said:—"Should the Board hold that it would be of any use having the petitioners up and talking to them they shall be warned to attend at the Sanitary Board meeting when desired."

The petition was as follows:—"To Hon. W. C. H. Hastings.—Petitioners, who are the masters of washermen's shops, present the petition, and state that several regulations concerning the washermen's shops were sent them by the Sanitary Board, which they ought to obey, and not to violate, but their poor business fully relies on their workmen, whose wages cannot be reduced, and the price which they obtain from their customers cannot be raised. Moreover, the price for food is dearer, and the rent for their shops has recently been raised. If new regulations are to be made, their hardships will be more than usual. It has been proposed that only one man is allowed to look after a washerman's shop, so that they have to rent a shop for washing clothes, and another for abode, and men and articles are to be set apart. Petitioners have then to pay double rent, and if there will be any accident they cannot see to it. Petitioners have been thinking

over the regulations; it is simply for the sake of sanitary purposes. Petitioners have the clothes washed in the streams as clean as can be, and they have to smooth them in their shops on some ironing boards which are apart from the beds on which the men sleep. Petitioners have kept their shops clean, and anybody can inspect them. Petitioners undertake washing clothes, and do not do it badly. If they do not wash their clothes properly they lose their business. In consequence of this they cannot but keep their shops clean. Now they have received instructions from the Sanitary Board, and if they do not obey the law, they are to oppose the above precept, but it is impossible to obey it. Petitioners are therefore constrained to come prostrate to your Honour's tribunal, and beg that you will allow them to carry on their poor business as formerly. And petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray." Here follow 45 chaps.

The following minutes were appended:—

Mr. N. J. Ede.—The by-laws framed for the purpose of putting and maintaining laundries in a proper condition are not oppressive or unreasonable, and if their meaning be properly explained, in Chinese, to the laundry masters they should easily be able to conform thereto. A reform in the condition of the laundries of the colony is in my opinion imperative, and I hope the Government will firmly insist upon the carrying out of the by-laws. If there should be a strike I think the gao might wash the clothes of Europeans (as I believe was once arranged for when a strike was threatened) until arrangements can be made to import Japanese or other washermen. I am also in favour of the Secretary's suggestion to deport the ringleaders of a strike.

The Acting Colonial Surgeon—I agree with the President.

The President—The petitioners have evidently not taken the trouble to find out what the regulations involve. I think if petitioners were so informed and referred to Secretary, Sanitary Board, such a course would meet the case.

The Secretary—An exact copy of this petition was presented to us a few days ago. When the men called here I explained to them that they were mistaken in supposing that room necessarily meant floor. If a man had only a comparatively small business the floor of the house he occupied could be divided into two rooms, one for his trade purpose, and one for the accommodation of his workmen. If the business was of such a size that a whole floor was required for trade purposes then accommodation for the workpeople must be found elsewhere. They seemed quite satisfied with the explanation. Should a strike take place against the enforcement of this law, I am of opinion that the ringleaders should be deported as characters dangerous to the peace and good order of the colony, and that Japanese washermen be brought to the colony to do its laundry work.

The PRESIDENT—All the members of the Board concur on the subject, and I therefore move that the Board agrees with the opinions expressed by Mr. Ede, and that his minute be forwarded to the Colonial Secretary in reply to the petition, a copy of which, I may say, was sent down to-day by his Excellency the Governor for the Board to report upon. The Secretary will take the necessary steps to inform the petitioners of the terms of the resolution.

Carried.

FALSE INFORMATION IN PLAGUE CASES.

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police forwarded a report stating that a man had given false information in regard to a case of plague at 44, Second Street. He gave a false address, and there was no law to prosecute him.

The PRESIDENT—It is important that this Board should be protected in some way from persons who deliberately give false information concerning cases of infectious disease or plague. In this particular case considerable difficulty was experienced in ascertaining exactly where the patient came from, and where he had been staying. Under section 13, sub-section 24, of Ordinance 24 of 1887 certain by-laws were made referring to the compulsory notification of contagious diseases; but these by-laws come into operation only in cases of small-pox. It is quite within the power of the Legislature, however, to extend that power by a special Ordinance to other diseases from time to time, if thought proper. There is no penalty, however, for giving false information, and the only penalty is for neglecting to give any information at all. I propose therefore that a letter be addressed to the Colonial Secretary calling attention to the serious inconvenience and

danger to the public that may arise by this Board not getting correct information, and that he be requested to take the necessary steps for the infliction of a penalty in case false information is given to the Board, and that the addition "bubonic plague" should be made to those diseases to which the present law applies. I propose that we draw up a by-law and take the opinion of the legal adviser to the Crown upon it. The resolution was seconded and carried.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended 14th September the death rate was 26.2 per 1,000 per annum as compared with 20.2 at the corresponding period last year. The death rate for week ended 21st September was 27.2, and at the corresponding period last year the rate was 16.1. The feature of most importance in the first return was the death recorded from bubonic plague.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Board adjourned until Thursday week.

THE OBSTRUCTION OF THE FAIRWAY.

THE MAGISTRATE REVERSES HIS FORMER DECISION.

At the Magistracy on Wednesday, before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, the hearing was resumed of the case in which three lightermen in the employ of the P. & O. Company were charged with obstructing the northern fairway with lighters on the 18th July last. Mr. Dennys appeared for the defence. When the case was last before the Court the evidence for the prosecution was completed, and Mr. Dennys asked for an adjournment until the *Khedive* returned to Hongkong, so that the captain might be called. The evidence for the prosecution was that the lighters drifted across and so obstructed the fairway while the *Peru* was coming in, that the captain of the *Peru* had to reverse engines in order to avoid a collision. When the case was first heard the Magistrate discharged the defendants, but it was re-opened at the request of Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings.

Before calling his witness Mr. Dennys said that if the Magistrate imposed a fine it would be paid by the P. and O. Company.

Captain Daniel, of the P. & O. *Khedive*, said—I was in Hongkong harbour on 18th July, and the *Khedive* was leaving for England. The regular time for leaving was noon, but we did not get away until about a quarter to one, as we were waiting for dispatches. Just as we were leaving I saw the *Peru* coming in. The P. & O. tug was towing the stern of the *Khedive* round. There were some lighters alongside and they left the ship when we left for stations. The lighters were alongside the ship two hours before we started, and I do not know what became of them. I saw the *Peru* stopped and her engines were reversed. She was delayed about two or three minutes. I do not know what was the reason for the delay. I saw her go to her buoy. I did not see any obstruction of the fairway. Seven minutes was not an unreasonable time for the lighters to go from the *Khedive* to the *Verona*. The tug did not tow the lighters, but I suppose she would have done so if it had been necessary.

Hon. Commander Hastings, Acting Captain Superintendent of Police—I should like to ask the witness a question.

The Magistrate—You can ask your questions through me.

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police—If the witness had been in the *Peru*, and had had his engines stopped for five minutes before taking his buoy, would he have considered three lighters drifting across the fairway any obstruction?

The Magistrate—There is no necessity to put that question. It is for me to decide whether there was an obstruction.

No more questions were asked.

Mr. Dennys—When I applied for an adjournment I had not had an opportunity of seeing Captain Daniel, who was on his way to Bombay, and I was relying upon what I was told as to the evidence the captain would give. I think your Worship must now come to the conclusion that there really was no obstruction. Of course the *Peru* was delayed, but she would have been delayed if another steamer had been crossing the fairway.

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police—Another steamer would have been under control; these were helpless craft drifting across the fairway. The captain of the *Peru* had to go full speed astern in order—

The Magistrate—Mr. Dennys was addressing me. Have you finished Mr. Dennys?

Mr. Dennys—No, your Worship. It is not fair to bring these lightermen—of course it is practically the P. and O. Company that is summoned—under the section of the Ordinance. This section deals with the fairways in the harbour and is not intended to prevent people crossing the fairway in lighters, junks, launches, or anything else. It is to prevent them anchoring there, or, I quite admit, drifting about for an uncertain time without being under control in any way. Here was the P. and O. mail steamer going away to England. Alongside the mail, according to the captain's evidence, was a steam tug belonging to the P. and O. which is employed in bringing lighters away. Instead of moving the lighters she was towing the stern of the mail steamer round, so as to enable her to get a fair start. The tug was close at hand, and could have been signalled for at any moment and could have gone to the lighters if there had been any necessity. These lighters went straight across from one P. and O. buoy to the other P. and O. buoy. I am unable to produce any evidence to show that they had a line across, but I urge on behalf of the defendants that they ran a line up to the *Verona's* buoy, and they went across on that line. I think your Worship must believe the story of the policeman, who said that they took only seven minutes to go across. They could not have drifted across without any rope or anything at all in seven minutes. I submit there was no obstruction of the fairway in the sense of the Ordinance. If your Worship reads the Ordinance 26 of 1891, section 26, you will find that it states—No vessel or boat of any description shall be allowed to anchor within any fairway which shall be set apart by the Harbour Master for the passage of vessels, and the master or other person in charge of any such boat dropping anchor in or otherwise obstructing such fairway, &c. If a vessel is coming down the fairway and a yacht or a junk or a launch is crossing the fairway and consequently the vessel has to stop it cannot be said that such vessel crossing is causing an obstruction. Your Worship re-opened the case at the request of the Acting Superintendent of Police, and in the first place you decided that there was not a reasonable obstruction according to the law, and that the lighters were going across the fairway at a reasonable speed. The case was dismissed on 24th July and re-opened on the 26th July. I am sure if your Worship takes into consideration the evidence given by Captain Daniel you will come to the conclusion that there was no obstruction, as the steam tug was close at hand and could have been used if there had been any necessity.

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police—Mr. Dennys has not brought—

The Magistrate—Under what circumstances did I reopen the case? I forget.

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police—I applied for a re-hearing under the Magistrates Ordinance.

Mr. Dennys—On the last occasion your Worship said that on the evidence as it then stood you were inclined to think that you had made a mistake in dismissing the case, and your Worship said you would give me an opportunity of calling Captain Daniel. His evidence certainly helps the case of the lightermen considerably. As I said, the police evidence is quite sufficient to show that they went from one buoy to another in seven minutes, and I submit that is a reasonable speed. They were not anchoring in the fairway or obstructing it in any way.

The Magistrate, without calling upon the Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, said—I fine each defendant \$50.

Mr. Dennys—What is that, your Worship? Each defendant fined \$50!

The Magistrate—Yes, each defendant is fined \$50.

Mr. Dennys—Your Worship will give me leave to appeal, if necessary?

The Magistrate—Of course.

HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LIMITED.

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company, Limited, was held on Monday at the offices of the Company. Hon. E. R. Belilios presided, and there were also present—Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Messrs. F. A. Gomes, J. Kramer, N. A. Siebs (Directors), V. H. Deacon (Solicitor to the Company), C. Tomlin (Acting Secretary), G. Fenwick, E. J. Moses, F. M. Gomez, G. Sharp, S. S. Benjamin, A. S. Manners, G. H. Potts, C. W. Richards, H. E. Tomkins, A. Fukeera, Captain Tillett, Woo Hon, Chun Chai, Chan Ufai, and Ai Shing. Thirty-eight shareholders were represented by proxy.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, it will be in your recollection that at two of our recent meetings, on the 30th July, 1894, and on the 3rd August, 1895, suggestions have been made by certain shareholders to the effect that a portion of the subscribed capital might be returned. The first time the question was mooted no proposal with regard to the sum desired was offered, but at the later meeting it was suggested that five dollars per share might be returned. On both occasions the Chairman, speaking for the Board, intimated their desire to meet the wishes of the shareholders, provided their proposal found general support. The matter being one that required thought and deliberation, it was suggested that the true wishes of the shareholders could be best ascertained by summoning an extraordinary meeting for the purpose, and if a majority voted for the return of capital to give effect to such resolution. Many shareholders considering the suggestion for a return of \$5 per share as reasonable and feasible, in response to this invitation by the Board, addressed the following requisition to the directors:—"We, the undersigned shareholders of the Company, hereby request you to call an extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Company for the purpose of passing a resolution for the return to the shareholders of five dollars per share from the capital or reserve fund of the Company. Dated the 6th day of August, 1895." This requisition was signed by 48 shareholders holding 20,327 shares, and at once received the attention it merited. The requisitionists desired a return either from the capital or the reserve fund. Well, gentlemen, the Board are unanimously of opinion that the latter course would be a most injudicious one, firstly, because we look upon the reserve as an insurance fund, on the strength of which we partly underwrite our steamers, and, secondly, because we make interest on this fund, which goes to augment our profits. It is otherwise with our capital, on which we are obliged to pay a dividend. The gentleman principally interested in this movement called on me, and after some discussion fell in with the view that if a return be made it should be made from the capital. The question was then fully threshed out at a Board meeting, with the result that an advertisement was inserted in the papers, which the Secretary read. We have accordingly met here to-day to consider the resolution and pass or reject it as the majority may decide. But before putting this resolution to the meeting, gentlemen, it is my duty to lay before you the pros and cons involved. Frankly, I must tell you the majority of the directors are opposed to the step, as they think it will be a mistake to make a return of capital. They are of opinion that such return will weaken the position of the Company, and render it open to attack by a strongly organised opposition on the river. They believe that if the West River is opened to foreign trade the traffic may become so extensive as to necessitate the stationing of hulks and the erection of godowns at several way ports, as is done on the Yangtze, while it might also be compulsory to build different descriptions of vessels for the various branches of the great waterway. For these purposes a large capital will be required, and should be retained. Our present large capital is, in fact, our great strength, not only to avail ourselves of opportunities for increasing our business but to meet and resist opposition, provide new steamers, hulks, wharves, etc., etc. On the other hand, shareholders who advocate the return of capital

assert.—That after payment of five dollars per share, or \$400,000, out of capital, the balance of about a million dollars left in our hands will amply suffice for all requirements. That the division of this sum among the shareholders will relieve the Board of the responsibility of finding profitable investment for it at a time when money is cheap, the Bank rate for deposits low, and investments on mortgage difficult to procure at more than 6 or 6½ per cent. That the much talked of opening of the West River is still doubtful and apparently far from realization. That the Company, in view of the uncertainty of that much desired concession, cannot reasonably postpone longer meeting the wish of the shareholders that a portion of their capital now invested in stocks and loans should be returned to them. That in the unlikely event of the West River being opened, if after the expenditure of the million dollars in hand more capital were needed for purchase of steamers, etc., it could readily be raised either by a loan, the issue of debentures at 6 per cent., or by creation of additional capital. That with our capital and reserve we have at all times sufficient credit with the public to raise as much money as may be required on loan. That this Company unlike insurance companies, is not a credit concern with whom the possession of large sums readily available is an object, ensuring a big business. That having regard to past experience, it can hardly be said that the possession of increased capital served to stave off opposition, nor is it probable this would avert it in the future. That under the subsisting agreements recently entered into with other companies engaged in the river trade we are debarred from at present increasing our fleet or enlarging our field of operations. Our invested capital has been and is a drag on the earnings of the capital sunk in the fleet, etc. As shown by our published accounts for the past half year, the Company's floating stock, that is to say, the steamers, lighters, with the necessary adjuncts of wharves, stores, spare gear, etc., yielded a handsome return, as against a little more than 6 per cent. accruing from our various investments. When the capital is reduced the net earnings on the smaller amount will provide a larger percentage as dividend to the shareholders, and with an improved business still better dividends may be looked for by investors in our stock. That with the money so easy as it promises to be, it is unlikely the Company will be able to maintain the rate of 6½ per cent. all round on its investments of so large a sum as fourteen lakhs. That it is not necessary for a River Steamboat Company to have such a large amount of capital employed in directions foreign to its business in order to keep up an appearance of reserved strength, and that the paying out of four lakhs from this invested capital will, for the reasons set forth above, in no way weaken the position of the Company, whose credit is sufficiently well established. It is now, gentlemen, for you to decide whether or not this return of capital shall be made, and I wish to state, gentlemen, that the directors being divided in opinion on this question of return of capital, in deference to each other, have resolved not to vote one way or another at this meeting. Will some shareholder propose the resolution?

Mr. FENWICK—I have much pleasure in proposing the resolution which you have heard read, and before doing so I may say that I hold proxies for twenty-eight shareholders in Shanghai, representing over \$11,000. I think I may say that nearly all the Shanghai shareholders are unanimous in desiring that this return should be made to the shareholders. I think the Chairman has expressed our views so clearly on this matter at this meeting that there is no further need for comment. Gentlemen, I beg to propose the following resolution—“That the capital of the Company be reduced from \$1,600,000 divided into 80,000 shares of \$20 each to \$1,200,000 divided into 80,000 shares of \$15 each and that such reduction be effected by returning to the holders of the 80,000 shares which have been issued capital to the extent of \$5 per share and by reducing the nominal amount of all the shares from \$20 to \$15.”

Captain TILLET—I beg to second that, gentlemen.

Carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—The confirmatory meeting will be advertised for Wednesday, 16th October,

at this office, and it is hoped that the gentlemen present to-day will, if possible, then attend. That is all the business before the meeting, and I thank you for your attendance.

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The twenty-ninth ordinary meeting of shareholders in the China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited, was held at the head offices, Queen's Road, on Saturday at noon. Mr. J. Thurburn presided and there were also present—Messrs. P. Sachse, J. Kramer, St. C. Michaelson (Directors), R. H. R. Burder, W. H. Wickham, H. M. Mehta, E. Burnie, R. C. Wilcox, E. W. Mitchell, J. D. Hutchison, J. Goosmann, E. C. Ray, W. Parlane, Chan Young Fat, and W. H. Ray (Secretary).

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, I will with your permission take the report and statement of accounts as read, they having been in your hands ten days, and have no doubt received every attention. As stated in the report a change has this year been made in dealing with sterling receipts and payments. Since the formation of the Company these items have been taken, for the purposes of statistics, at a uniform rate of 4/- per dollar. Until the recent material fall in exchange the mode of adjustment was of little moment, but considering the very marked difference that exists at present between this rate and that now current, the directors are of opinion the latter should take the place of the previous fixed system, and this will be the practice in future. Although the net result will be precisely the same by either method the present mode will show the revenue and expenditure in silver, the currency in which the Company's accounts are kept. This change also accounts for the apparent increase in charges and directors' fees (the latter include the fees of consulting committees in London and Australia), these and other sterling charges being calculated at the current exchange instead of 4/- as formerly. The business transacted during the past twelve months is very satisfactory as regards receipts, the premia being in excess of the previous year, after allowing for the difference in rates of exchange just mentioned—a result which is partly due to premium obtained for war risks during the late China and Japan war. The losses, however, have been exceptionally heavy, but in spite of these the result of the year's working I think will not be considered, under the circumstances, unsatisfactory, and the directors are glad to be able to recommend the same dividend as last year, viz., 20 per cent. to shareholders and 15 per cent. to contributors of business, and to carry forward \$290,000 to new account. The profits realized by the sale of a portion of the Company's sterling securities, referred to at last meeting, amounts to \$100,000, and the directors propose that this sum be transferred to reserve fund, raising it to \$900,000. Messrs. Palmer and Turner have made the customary annual valuation of properties mortgaged to the Company in Hongkong, and their report shows the security in every instance to be ample. I think nothing else requires remark by me, but before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be glad to give any further information that may be asked for.

There were no questions, and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. HUTCHISON seconded.

Carried.

Mr. MITCHELL proposed and Mr. WILCOX seconded the confirmation of the appointment of Mr. M. D. Ezekiel as member of the consulting committee.

Carried.

On the motion of Mr. BURDER, seconded by Mr. WICKHAM, Messrs. Sachse and Ezekiel were re-elected members of the consulting committee.

Messrs. H. U. Jeffries and T. Arnold were, on the motion of Mr. MEHTA, seconded by Mr. CHAN TONG FAT, re-elected auditors.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the business before the meeting is now finished, and the dividend warrants will be ready on Monday.

Mr. GOOSMANN—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, now that the report has been adopted I think we can be quite well satisfied with the result of last year's working, and I would like to propose a vote of thanks to the Board of Directors, Secretary, and staff, and I have no doubt somebody will be found willing to second the motion.

Mr. WICKHAM—I have much pleasure in seconding the motion.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I beg to return thanks on behalf of the directors and staff; we are all very glad to have attained such a pleasing result.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the directors to be presented at the ordinary meeting of shareholders, to be held at the Company's hotel, on Friday, 4th October:—

In accordance with section 53 of the articles of association, the directors have now to submit to the shareholders their half-yearly report for the six months ending 30th June, 1895.

ACCOUNTS.

The profit and loss account of the Company shows a credit balance of \$5,668.38, including \$576.92 brought forward from last account, as compared with \$2,765.31 on 30th June, 1894. The amount received from rents of shops and offices is slightly less than for the half-year ending 31st December, 1894.

The profit of the hotel, as distinct from that of the Company, for the six months amounts to \$19,211.05, against a profit for the same half-year of \$20,144.53. The profit of the hotel for the past half-year would have been \$20,261.05 but for an exceptional disbursement in January last of \$1,050 for the passages of the late manager (Mr. R. Tucker) and his wife to England.

The profit on the “board and lodging account” for the half-year is \$27,681.14, against a profit on the same account for January to June, 1894, of \$24,874.97.

The “bar and wine accounts” show a surplus of \$11,648.49, against \$7,839.85 for the same period of the previous year.

The “billiards account” shows a diminished profit to the extent of \$338.25.

Salaries and wages of the hotel staff for the six months amounted to \$10,226.02, against \$9,784.13 for the second half of 1894.

The sum of \$5,057.43 due for debts owing to the hotel for some years prior to 1895 has been placed to a suspense account, as it is probable that a very large part of it will have to be written off as bad during the current year.

Of the item of \$2,166.20 for salaries at the debit of the profit and loss account of the Company the sum of \$1,301.20 was paid on 3rd January last to the late manager (Mr. Tucker) for arrears of commission due to him and for salary attaching to the unexpired period of his agreement.

HOTEL COMPANY'S ACCOUNT.

The sum of \$1,000 on account of calls has been collected during the half-year from persons whose shares have been forfeited. This amount now stands at credit of profit and loss account, but the directors recommend that it should be written off “furniture account” during the current half-year.

MANAGEMENT.

Mr. J. Richardson, Manager, resigned on 4th May last, and Mr. C. Mooney, Secretary, on 30th June. Mr. A. Fonseca has been appointed Manager and Secretary.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. E. Osborne and R. C. Wilcox retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDIT.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. W. H. Potts and W. H. Gaskell, who offer themselves for re-election.

EDWARD OSBORNE,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 28th September, 1895

BALANCE SHEET, 30TH JUNE, 1895.

ASSETS.		
Hotel property—		
Marine lot No. 5, and remain- ing portion of marine lot No. 3.....	\$ c.	412,523.04
Remaining portion of marine lot No. 7.....		408,157.26
Praya Reclamation \$ c. as per last report.....		7,049.92
Second instalment paid to Govern- ment in February last.....		5,493.25
		12,543.17
Furniture account—		833,223.47
As per last report.....	\$ c.	88,255.31
Since added.....		144.16
		88,399.47
Less written off as recom- mended in last report.....		3,600.00
		84,799.47
Stock, wines, and provisions.....		8,752.69
Steam launch.....		2,500.00
Cash.....		1,310.58
Shares.....		11,474.19
Licences attaching to second half year, 1895.....		200.00
Hongkong Bank.....		20,749.34
Sundry debtors.....		8,550.03
Suspense account (debts prior to 1895).....		5,057.43
		\$976,617.20
LIABILITIES.		
Capital—		
8,879 shares at \$50 each (fully paid up).....	\$ c.	443,950.00
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Limited, balance as per last report.....		350,000.00
Amount advanced by that Company in April last to pay off 300 debentures of \$500 each.....		150,000.00
		500,000.00
Sundry creditors.....		26,998.82
Balance.....		5,668.38
		\$976,617.20

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, FOR THE SIX MONTHS
ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1895.

Dr.	\$ c.
To Crown rent.....	365.90
To directors' and auditors' fees.....	1,350.00
To salaries.....	2,166.20
To fire insurance.....	700.93
To interest on loans and debentures.....	16,725.01
To charges and repairs.....	414.18
To calls against forfeited shares written off furniture account as recommended in last report.....	3,600.00
To balance.....	5,468.38
	\$31,050.60
Cr.	\$ c.
By balance from last account.....	576.92
By profit on Hongkong Hotel for six months ending 30th June, 1895.....	19,211.05
By add rent of shops and offices.....	10,190.13
	29,401.18
By bonus and dividends from local offices.....	72.50
By received against forfeited shares dur- ing half-year ending 30th June, 1895.....	1,000.00
	\$31,050.60

VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB
SPORTS.

The annual aquatic sports in connection with the Victoria Recreation Club were commenced on Friday at the bath house, and will be concluded this afternoon. Unfortunately the weather completely spoilt the thorough enjoyment of the spectators, but the sports could not be very well postponed as the tide never waits for anybody, and an adjournment would have meant a fortnight's delay. Special preparations were as usual made for the accommodation of visitors, but there were very few people there. His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson, and Hon. H. E. Wodehouse were among those who braved the elements. Rain fell on and off at times, and it is to be hoped that better weather will favour this afternoon's sports.

1.—DIVING FOR OBJECTS. Two prizes.
J. M. E. de Carvalho (9)..... 1
R. F. Lammert (6)..... 2

S. G. Martlew (3), M. A. Figueiredo (1), J. Alves (1), A. A. Alves (0), also competed.

2.—CHAMPION RACE—Two lengths (scratch). Two prizes.

R. F. Lammert..... 1
J. M. E. de Carvalho..... 2
J. Millar, A. A. Alves, and R. Lapsley also started.

There were five competitors and the race was very close and exciting. Lammert did not go straight on the return journey, but notwithstanding this he covered the distance—240 feet—in 64 seconds—a very good time. He won amidst great cheers by a few inches.

3.—RUNNING HEADER FROM SPRING BOARD. Two prizes.

T. M. E. de Carvalho..... 1
F. White..... 2
A. A. Alves..... 3

The following also competed:—R. F. Lammert, M. A. Figueiredo, and J. Alves. White and A. A. Alves tied for second place and the deciding heat was in favour of F. White.

4.—SHORT RACE.—Two lengths (handicap). Two prizes.

R. Lapsley (scratch)..... 1
J. Alves (6 seconds)..... 2
M. A. Figueiredo (6 seconds)..... 3

W. Armstrong, J. Millar, A. A. Alves (4 seconds), F. White (5 seconds) and J. Jorge (6 seconds) also competed. The race was all in favour of Lapsley, who after starting held back owing to a misunderstanding, but soon caught up the others and won by three yards. Time—66 secs.

5.—BOY'S RACE (over 15 and under 18). Two lengths (handicap). Two prizes.

H. Jorge (3 seconds)..... 1
A. E. Alves (3 seconds)..... 2
A. Vasquez (5 seconds) and J. Hance (scratch) also competed. Time 83½ secs.

6.—PLUNGING.—Two prizes.

J. M. E. de Carvalho (56 feet)..... 1
F. W. White (50 feet)..... 2
F. M. R. Pereira (47 feet)..... 3

R. F. Lammert, W. Armstrong, M. A. Figueiredo, and A. A. Alves also competed.

7.—WATER POLO.—Teams of six.

Reds—R. F. Lammert, G. C. Hayward, A. A. Alves, R. Lapsley, J. Alves, F. M. R. Pereira.

Whites—J. M. E. de Carvalho, W. Armstrong, T. Meek, M. A. Figueiredo, J. Millar, and C. Klineck.

It was almost dark when this event was started. The Reds scored one point in the first half, but this was disallowed. In the second half the Whites scored, and the result was Whites 1, Reds 2.

The following were the officials:—

President:—His Excellency Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G.

Chairman:—Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, C.M.G.

Committee:—Messrs. W. H. Potts, M. A. A. Souza, Capt. D. F. MacCarthy, R. F. Lammert, E. Bischoff, C. Murray Adamson, G. L. Duncan, W. Machell, and G. A. Caldwell.

Hon. Treasurer:—Mr. W. Armstrong.

Hon. Secretary:—Mr. E. D. Sanders.

Umpires:—Mr. W. H. Potts, Mr. C. Murray Adamson, Mr. G. L. Duncan, Mr. R. K. Leigh.

Starters:—Mr. E. D. Sanders, Mr. T. W. Lammert.

Official Timekeeper:—Mr. W. Machell.

Handicappers:—Mr. R. F. Lammert, Mr. G. C. Hayward, Mr. M. A. A. Souza.

COND DAY.

On Saturday the programme of sports organised by the Victoria Recreation Club was concluded. The weather was delightfully wet from the point of view of everybody who wants an assured water supply for the winter, but it was certainly not an ideal day for sports. Rain fell during the whole of the afternoon, and the competitors must have keenly felt the cold air and the clammy state of the atmosphere. There was a small attendance of spectators, but it must be said that the sport provided was first class, the chief event, of course, being the 1,000 yards handicap race, which was won by Carvalho, the scratch man. After the conclusion of the sports Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, the Chairman of the Club, distributed the prizes, in the absence of his Excellency the Governor, who was unable to be present. The Chairman congratulated the members upon the success of the sports from a sporting standpoint, and regretted that

the weather had not been more favourable. He was quite sure that, even with finer weather, a better class of sport could not have been provided. The following are the results:—

1.—SHORT RACE. Two lengths (handicap). Two prizes.

R. Lapsley (scratch)..... 1
A. A. Alves (5 seconds)..... 2

G. C. Hayward, W. Armstrong (5 seconds), J. Alves, J. Millar, F. W. White, M. A. Figueiredo, and J. Jorge (6 seconds) also started. Lapsley, the scratch man, overtook most of the competitors before reaching the first length, and commenced the return journey second. He soon took the lead and won by three yards. Time—64 seconds.

2.—HEADER FROM THE STAGE. Two prizes.

R. F. Lammert..... 1
W. A. Figueiredo..... 2
F. W. White..... 3

Lammert and Figueiredo had to take two additional dives before the judges could decide for first place. W. Armstrong, A. A. Alves, and J. Alves also competed.

3.—SWIM UNDER WATER. Two prizes.

J. M. E. de Carvalho (150 feet)..... 1
R. F. Lammert (102 feet)..... 2

W. Armstrong, W. A. Figueiredo, J. Alves, and T. Meek also competed.

4.—SMALL BOYS' RACE (under 15 years of age). Two lengths handicap. Two prizes.

E. Millar..... 1
A. Humphreys..... 2

5.—LONG RACE (handicap). Distance 1,000 yards. Two prizes.

J. M. E. de Carvalho (scratch)..... 1
J. Millar (15 seconds)..... 2

A. A. Alves (15 seconds)..... 3
W. Toller (1 minute)..... 4

J. Alves (45 seconds), J. Jorge (30 seconds), M. A. Figueiredo (15 seconds) also entered, but they gave up before the race was finished.

Millar led for a considerable distance, and it was not until the Naval Yard pier had been passed that Carvalho took the lead. A hundred yards from home Millar tried hard to get in front, but was beaten by a dozen lengths. Time, 17 minutes, 15½ secs.

6.—CONSOLATION RACE. Two lengths. One prize.

G. C. Hayward (scratch)..... 1
J. Jorge (5 seconds) and T. Meek (2 seconds) also started. Hayward won easily.

7.—GREASY POLE. One prize.

T. Alves..... 1

This would have been a very amusing event if the pole had been greasy.

The DUCK HUNT did not come off because darkness had set in.

HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

The competition for the October Captain's Cup took place from Saturday to Monday, September 28th to 30th, and resulted in a win for Captain W. V. Eccles, R.B. The scores were indifferent owing to the fact that several players elected to compete on Saturday in the pouring rain. Dr. Lowson won the Sweepstakes with a splendid score of 80. It is good when one sees a scratch player heading the list.

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

Capt. W. V. Eccles, R.B....	90	3.....	87
Capt. Thomas, D.A.A.G....	110	20.....	90
Mr. G. Stewart.....	98	6.....	92
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple.....	105	10.....	95

Others over 100 net.

SWEEPSTAKES.

Dr. J. A. Lowson.....	80	scr.....	80
Capt. W. V. Eccles, R.B....	87	3.....	84
Capt. Thomas.....	110	20.....	90
Mr. G. Stewart.....	98	6.....	92

Others over 100 net.

The quarterly meeting will be held from Friday to Monday, October 4th and 7th.

Captain Vicomte de Labry, French military attaché in Tokyo, who has been visiting Vladivostok and Korea in a Russian man-of-war, returned to Nagasaki a few days ago. Although he was expected to return to Tokyo, says a Japanese contemporary, he is still remaining at Nagasaki, awaiting the arrival of the Russian Minister, with whom he intends to revisit Vladivostok.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

Twenty-three members turned up at the Butts on Saturday to compete for the Short Range Cup, which was won by Mr. R. Rutter, the Spoons being taken by Lieut. Lee-Dillon, Captain Ferguson, Lieut. Close, Lieut. Hoey, and Captain Palmer. The following were the best scores:—

	200 yards.	300 yards.	Handi- cap.	To- tal.
R. Rutter	27	27	10	64
Lieut. Lee-Dillon	29	29	4	62
Captain Ferguson	26	33	2	61
Lieut. Close	25	26	10	61
Lieut. Hoey	32	27	—	59
Captain Palmer	31	25	—	56
W. Stewart	20	30	6	56
Lieut. Percival	28	27	—	55

CORRESPONDENCE

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

THE MEDICAL SERVICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—The report of the Committee appointed by H.E. the Governor to inquire into the Medical Department and other matters relative thereto would have proved a very valuable document for practical purposes had not its utility as to certain sections of it, especially as to the section dealing with the rearrangement of duties of the members of the medical staff, been marred by the unqualified acceptance by the Committee of the evidence tendered on that subject as the keystone of its construction. The report, as based upon that evidence, bears upon it so very much the impress of one-sidedness that evidently public interests demand that the evidence which has led to the construction of such a report should be thoroughly analyzed and sifted independently of the means, if any, adopted for the purpose by the Committee, to test the accuracy of the conclusions arrived at. The part of the report dealing with the work required of the medical staff and its future redistribution is principally, and necessarily, based upon the evidence given by the chief medical officers of the Government Civil Hospital, but it is a question whether the evidence of these officers, as given, should be accepted as to the qualifications of a professional man and fellow official, but since it has been accepted *in toto*, and accepted, as apparent from the evidence, on very slender grounds and inadequate or no inquiry, letting aside the minor and the sentimental question of the etiquette of the profession, public interests demand, in fairness and justice to the officer concerned, as also to the department of which he is the Medical Officer, that either the statements made in the evidence should be verified in all honesty of purpose by citations of instances and occasions when incompetency on the part of the official concerned was evidenced, or that, on the other hand, if the statements simply partake of the nature of aspersions, they should not be allowed to go unchallenged to the prejudice of—for aught one may know to the contrary from the report—quite a competent medical man in the colony. The statements, as they are to be found in the evidence, are neither supported by facts and figures nor justified by any scrap or shadow of substantiation. They are statements made by Drs. Ayres, Atkinson, and Lowson upon their own *ipse dixit* against the Medical Officer of the Gaol, and it is passing strange that such bare and unsupported statements should ever have been allowed by the Committee reporting to the Government as the ground work and the basis of what might have proved on the whole a very important report, affecting, as it does, the best interests of the public as affecting the health and sanitation of this colony. In England the Corrupt Practices Act has recently been introduced for checking statements published for the purpose of injuring an opponent in Parliamentary elections. If any statements are made or published to the constituency as to any candidate's personal character or conduct, and if those statements are on examination found false in the Court of Ap-

peal, the publication of such statements is considered as a violation of the recent Act of Parliament. How much the more reason there is therefore that statements made by officials as to the official conduct and competency of a fellow official who, considering his certificate of qualifications and his diplomas of medical degrees, is to all intents and purposes their *confrère* and on a level of equality, should, if ever made, be made without circumvention and with all due precision and circumspection? In the statements made one seeks in vain for facts and circumstances and one seeks in vain for any accuracy and verification. In reply to the President's question "Do you consider Marques is competent to take over the duties of medical officer of the Civil Hospital in the event of necessity?" Dr. Ayres says "No, sir, certainly not." It is to be regretted that after such an answer the President should never have thought it his duty to have followed up his inquiry by asking the simple question—*Wherefore not?* and it is much more to be regretted that Dr. Ayres, himself possessing no better diplomas of efficiency than Dr. Marques, should simply sit upon him and should assume the rôle of a judge, and should seek to run down merely upon his own *ipse dixit* a medical gentleman who has served with and under him, if not for so many years as twenty-five years which Dr. Ayres puts forth for his tenure of service, but for nothing less than fifteen years, during which Dr. Marques according to his evidence held the following appointments. Dr. Marques says—"I was originally appointed Acting Superintendent of the Civil Hospital, then Assistant Superintendent, and afterwards I was appointed Resident Surgeon of the Lock Hospital. Then I was appointed Medical Officer of the Gaol. I was appointed by Lord Derby in 1883 for the Lock Hospital and I was transferred in 1887 to the Gaol." Dr. Ayres's answer to the President is good enough for conveying the sting intended, but, taken by itself, it is disingenuous enough for revealing and exhibiting the main motive that guided him, and the main motive, if not found in the answer itself, is to be found in an unmistakable manner in his previous statements. Dr. Ayres seems from those statements evidently to have certain prepossessions as regards nationalities, and those prepossessions find a reflex not only in those statements, but they also find a reflex in another section of his answers to the Committee. Dr. Ayres says—"Dr. Marques was appointed in 1880. The public mortuary was opened and as Dr. Wharry wanted to get rid of the post mortem examinations which involved a lot of work, and a lot of Court work, it was decided to put Dr. Marques in charge of it and the Lock Hospital. Then when the C. D. Ordinance was abolished the women, who had arrived at a knowledge of the benefit they derived from being examined, applied to the Registrar-General to have the examination continued but as it was a voluntary matter they refused to be examined by Dr. Marques. So he was removed to take charge of the Gaol." Evidently the women refused to be examined by Dr. Marques because the question of his nationality affected, so to speak, their fine and delicate feelings, and Dr. Ayres seeing his prepossessions as to the question of nationality coinciding with those of the women set aside the needs and exigencies of the service and taking the opportunity of Dr. Marques's nationality stinking in the nostrils of the women had him shifted from the Civil Hospital to the Gaol. Dr. Ayres further says—"That none of the Europeans will have anything to do with him; they come at once to me. He is not liked." Again he says—"You see he is a Portuguese and the Europeans in the service do not like him and make complaints. It caused a good deal of trouble in the Hospital." Dr. Ayres is pretty plain there, and it very plainly comes out that Dr. Marques's nationality has a great deal to answer for Dr. Ayres's opinion as given to the Committee. At one time it is the women under examination in the Lock Hospital whose views are truckled to, at another time it is the Europeans in the service who should be most thought of, and whatever may be the merits of an unobtrusive Portuguese doctor who up to recently has borne the white flower of a blameless official career, it is he and he alone who should be laid on the bed of Procrustes.

Dr. Ayres has again dealt with the question of nationality when dealing with the question of putting the Chinese graduates of the College of Medicine in charge of dispensaries to be set up by Government Dr. Ayres in support of his opinion that a Chinaman is not capable of being a doctor has cited the case of the Bengalees, saying—"I do not think they (that is the Chinese) could be relied upon for surgical cases judging from my experience of young Baboos in India." Dr. Ayres has been in the service of the colony well nigh twenty-five years. Before that he was in Bengal as Civil Surgeon of Malda. So his experience of "young Baboos" was acquired more than a quarter of a century before. But if he would have kept himself well informed about the advancement of medical education in Bengal, fossilized as he has been by a very long lease of official power in this colony, he would not have put forward such an outworn view as he has done about the Bengalees and he would not have exhibited such a stolid ignorance and such an antiquated state of his information about them as he has done. During the last half century the advancement of the Bengalees in various intellectual spheres has been a phenomenal success, and there have been in India Bengalee doctors who have been, within the general knowledge of those who have paid any attention to the subject, men with as high intellectual attainments and with as high surgical and medical skill as any one could find in the ranks of the medical profession in England. Even so far back as in Dr. Ayres's time when he was in Bengal medical education among the Bengalees was in such a state of advancement that even then there were Indian doctors in that Presidency of such high attainments and of such superior qualifications as to be entitled and selected to act as professors and teachers in the higher branches of medical education, and at whose feet some of the medical men in this colony might well have sat as their disciples to their intellectual enhancement and ultimate benefit. Some of these doctors had acquired such reputation for proficiency that as medical men it was said of them at that time that they were not made but born doctors. I would cite only one instance. The name of Dr. Kanaya Lal Dey has almost been a household word in Bengal the last quarter of a century, and those who have any acquaintance with Dr. Norman Chever's standard work on medical jurisprudence in India would at once recognize that, if a Bengalee doctor could contribute a large number of chapters to such a standard work, his attainments must necessarily be of a very high order. Dr. Dey contributed a number of chapters to that work and the author has acknowledged his valuable aid in such a manner as to leave no room for any such absurd statement as that the Bengalees in the early stage of medical education were not capable of becoming good doctors. It is not to be disputed for a moment that medical and surgical education was relatively not in a very advanced state of progress in India about a quarter of a century before. It was certainly much behind the present state of advancement. But what was the state of progress made in medicine and surgery even in England then? Sir J. Russell Reynolds, the President of the British Medical Association for the current year, at the opening of its annual meeting in July last, taking the meeting of 1873 as the starting point of a historical review of progress in medicine and surgery, observed that "even the dauntless courage of Sir William Fergusson would not have sufficed for the undertaking of operations which are now tranquilly performed by much less highly gifted surgeons. In the same way the distinguished physician who in 1873 delivered the address in medicine had never dreamed in his most sanguine moods of the development now familiar to all ranks of the profession." It is a pity that Surgeon-Colonel Preston, a member of the Committee, has, as coming comparatively recently from India, accepted such a threadbare banality as Dr. Ayres has delivered himself of about the Bengalees with such an assured belief in its originality and such a child-like delight in his own cleverness. If Dr. Ayres's other statements about cognate subjects are on a par with the opinion that he has given,

and with the antiquated state of his information about the Bengalees, which as an argument intended to carry conviction is singularly jejune, the question arises how far credence can be attached to his other views and opinions.

Coming to Dr. Lowson's evidence, the opinion given by him is certainly to be endorsed that there is a limit to human endurance, and there is a limit to human endurance when with the knowledge of hours and hours spent on the cricket field and other sporting scenes one is asked to accept the statement that "my work averages from twelve to fifteen hours a day, and even then I never took up an ophthalmoscope to look at a case of eye disease." If Dr. Lowson would have used some other person's ophthalmoscope than his own to look at his own case he would have found the view quite different, and when the question of the third man on the medical staff cropped up, Dr. Lowson should have been the last man to have used his own ophthalmoscope and to have spoken against Dr. Marques, for he was particularly interested to have his own brother in, as he himself wrote up to the Colonial Secretary through the Colonial Surgeon and said, "I urgently desired that my brother should be stopped and kept here at a salary of \$200 a month." Dr. Lowson is too well known in the colony for his fly-away methods and for his perfunctory turn of mind to require any very serious refutation.

Dr. Atkinson's testimony is simply an adroit straddle. In answer to the President's enquiry about the efficiency of Dr. Marques, he at first intimated his inability to comprehend the question, but at the same time he added from his personal experience—when and where and how acquired is neither known nor investigated—that he did not consider Dr. Marques competent to act as a medical officer on the staff.

The method by which the medical trio of the Government Civil Hospital have been infatuated against Dr. Marques's possible connection with the medical staff of the colony reminds one of Professor Porson's extemporaneous sketch of his journey to the Continent. After his return from a visit thereto, at a party where he happened to be present, a gentleman solicited a sketch of his journey. Porson immediately gave the following extemporaneous one:—

"I went to Frankfort and got drunk,
With that most learned professor, Brunck;
I went to Worts and got more drunken
With that more learned professor, Ruhnken."

In like manner the medical trio has been infected, the one with the opinion of the other, and being well accustomed to act together they had been, to speak in the words of Dickens, "linked to each other by ties of mutual interest and advantage" to ruin the official career of a brother official of fifteen years' standing in this colony.—I am, sir, yours truly,

A LAYMAN.

Hongkong, 30th September.

THE STRANDING OF THE "BELGIC."

The *Japan Advertiser* gives the following account of the stranding of the *Belgic*:—

If the accounts of the passengers be true, and there seems no reason to doubt the veracity of their statements, the stranding of the *Belgic* was due to an error on the part of her commander. Captain Walker was on the bridge at the time, so was the unfortunate second officer, Mr. Beckman, who was destined to be drowned a few minutes later. The full moon was shining brightly, the Cape King lighthouse was four miles behind, and the *Belgic*, which should have been heading about due west to clear the point of Sunosaki, was bearing up to the north where as it appeared to the inexperienced passengers there was nothing but a surf beaten shore ahead. The passengers, by the way, were all on deck, drinking in what they could of the first visible bits of Japan that rose before them in the moonlight. It was 8.30 o'clock. The chief officer had completed his watch half an hour before and had turned into his cabin for a nap; the captain and second officer walked the bridge. Presently it was noticed that the vessel was heading at full speed for what seemed to be an unbroken coast line a mile ahead. The chief engineer passed along the deck and was

questioned by some of the passengers who asked whether the vessel was going, but he could not answer them satisfactorily. A few moments later the *Belgic* ploughed into the sand.

Mr. Henry P. Umbesen, of San Francisco, who was a passenger on the *Belgic* and an actor in many of the subsequent events, tersely describes the whole affair from notes he made as soon as possible after the incidents alluded to below transpired.

Mr. Umbesen was on the upper deck with the other passengers watching the gradually developing features of the coast of Japan as they loomed up through the moonlight. There was no shock to speak of when the ship struck; it was not until an incoming billow struck her to windward and lifted her up as it rolled under that she bumped softly on the bottom. The engines stopped; the cabin passengers jumped up excited, though not panicstricken, while from his cabin near the bridge the chief officer rushed out with nothing on but his under-clothes. As the vessel was swept further inland she listed to windward and in that position she remained until the passengers left her. The Chinese passengers grew frantic with terror at this juncture; and while the ship was firing up rockets as signals of distress, the celestials were jabbering about the deck and burning joss sticks and prayer papers by the million. They were eventually quieted by the officers. Indeed the officers and crew behaved nobly all through the trying ordeal, though nobody seems to have felt justified in jumping into the water after the second officer who was drowned. He was on the bridge with the captain when the vessel grounded and went forward to launch one of the life boats on the port side. The port side was to windward, but as the vessel had listed that way the boats swung free and were easier to launch than those to leeward. Somehow in the confusion the unfortunate man fell overboard and was lost. "It was a horrible spectacle," said Mr. Umbesen. "We threw him a number of buoys and he caught one of them. Then the waves which were running high would lift him in close to us and then he would seem to sink away. The Chinamen in the boat held out oars to him, and we threw him life-lines from the deck, though the spray was dashing over us every minute on that side. I was throwing a line myself, and frequently had it fall nearly over his head as did many others; but he seemed to have lost all his strength and only gurgled and tried to cry out. Presently the current carried him further forward, where the run of the water made a number of eddies around the bow of the ship. These seemed to exhaust him utterly and presently he let go the buoy and sank."

Eventually, by about 9 o'clock the third officer's boat got off and started for Uraga some 22 miles away. It did not reach a telegraph station until 6 a.m., and later in the day on its return trip it was picked up by the *Empress of Japan* and by her taken back to Sunosaki. Meanwhile, about 15 minutes after the departure of the third officer's boat, a volunteer crew agreed to take another life-boat ashore through the surf about 300 yards ahead. The inhabitants of the little fishing villages along the beach had meanwhile come down to the shore with lights, and five of the hardy fishermen came out to the stranded mail steamer. With aid of these and the regular crew of Chinese rowers, Purser Niswander, Mr. Umbesen, Mr. Chas. F. Reinlein, and Mr. H. Nishimura of Tokyo, who agreed to act as interpreter, the boat started for the beach. When they reached the heavy surf the Chinese rowers got afraid and wanted to turn back, whereupon the purser knocked one of them into the bottom of the boat with a blow, and Mr. Umbesen did the same to another, and taking the two oars they guided the boat in all right. They struck the beach luckily and were washed up high by two succeeding combers. The natives lent all the assistance in their power and helped to pull the boat up on the beach. Here they left the Chinamen to sleep on the sand, while the three Europeans and Mr. Nishimura pushed on to Tateyama, whence they telegraphed to the company's agent at Yokohama at two o'clock on Monday morning. They got back to the ship at 8 a.m., being taken off in their own boat by the Japanese fishermen, who understood the waters and currents better than the Chinamen.

Though no immediate fears were entertained of the vessel's breaking up on Sunday night, the ladies were so terrified with the prospect of being hopelessly wrecked, that they had to be lowered into a life boat alongside to calm their nerves. In this uncomfortable craft they remained with a couple of babies and some sailors until the majority of them got too sea-sick to care about shipwrecks or anything else, whereupon they were all put aboard again. At noon on Monday Mr. Tilden came down in the launch, and the cabin passengers with their gripsacks, as well as the mails and specie that were on board, started for Yokohama about 3 p.m.

"CHISHIMA-RAVENNA" CASE.

THE CASE COMPROMISED.

The following documents were signed and sealed in H.B.M. Court at Yokohama on the 19th inst.:

In H.B.M. Court for Japan, Kanagawa—In Admiralty.

Between the Imperial Japanese Government, plaintiffs; and the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, defendants.

The plaintiffs by their counsel, Mr. Ambrose Berry Walford, move this honourable Court, upon the consent herein written, that the defendants having paid to them the sum of £10,000 sterling in full satisfaction of all damages and of all costs, except the costs already adjudged to the plaintiffs, all further proceedings in this action may be stayed, except such as may be necessary for enforcing the payment of costs so already adjudged as aforesaid.

AMBROSE B. WALFORD,
Counsel for the Plaintiffs,
19th September 1895.

I consent.

J. F. LOWDER,

Counsel for the defendants.

His Honour Judge Mowat made the following order:—

ORDER.

Upon motion by counsel for the plaintiffs and the defendants having paid to the plaintiffs the sum of £10,000 sterling in full satisfaction of all damages and of all costs except the costs already adjudged to the plaintiffs, this Court doth by consent order that all further proceedings in this action be stayed except such as may be necessary for enforcing the payment of costs so already adjudged as aforesaid.

I consent.

J. F. LOWDER,

Counsel for the Defendants.

[Seal of H.B.M. Court.]

The original claim by the Japanese Government was for \$850,000 for the loss of the *Chishima-kan*.

REPORTED ESCAPE OF LIU YUNG-FU FROM FORMOSA.

For some days past, says the *China Gazette* of the 24th September, a report has been current amongst Chinese officials that the redoubtable Liu Yung-fu had escaped from Formosa in a junk to Amoy with a number of his flying "braves," and that he is now either on his way to Nanking or already in the yamen of his friend and financier Chang Chih-tung. A very similar report, we notice, reached the Japanese papers from Formosa, so there may be something in it.

COLLISION AT BANGKOK.

THE RULES OF NAVIGATION ON THE MENAM.

A collision occurred near Bangkok on the 18th September between the British steamer *Kongsee* and the German steamer *Donar*. The *Kongsee* had a plate fractured abreast the engine room, and a dinghy smashed to pieces on the port side, while the *Donar* had a few stanchions broken.

At the request of the *Kongsee* a British Naval Court of Inquiry was held to investigate the circumstances of the collision, so far as that vessel was concerned. The following was the finding of the Court:—

That, according to Art. 16 in the Order in Council of the 11th August, 1894, "If two ships

under steam are crossing so as to involve risk of collision, the ship which has the order on her own starboard side shall keep out of the way of the other." In the absence of any local rules for river navigation in the river Menam this rule, it seems, if any, shall apply, and the steamer *Donar* was in fault for a breach of the rule. Again—and this seems to us the point of most importance—the *Donar* was completely under command, and had a high rate of speed on with a strong following tide. The *Kongsee*, on the other hand, was under only a very limited control, being at the time in the act of turning in the bend to go down river and partly round. It was the duty of the master of the steamer *Donar* to draw the attention of the master of the steamer *Kongsee* to the fact that he wanted to pass him, and give the *Kongsee* an opportunity to get into such a position as to allow him to do so. The steamer *Donar*, in passing the *Kongsee*, did so at her own risk, more especially as she came down on the port side of the channel, and the *Kongsee* was on her starboard bow.

The master, in our opinion, appears to have navigated his vessel in a seamanlike and proper manner, and when a casualty was inevitable to have done everything in his power to avert the collision. The Court sees no ground for blaming his conduct.

W. R. D. BECKETT.

H.B.M. Acting Consul (President).

G. B. POWNALL, Lieut. R.N.

R. MORGAN, *Mongkut*.

THE NEW VICEROY OF THE LIANGKIANG.

The following translation of a native letter, dated Wuchang, 15th September, contains a variety of interesting news, including the name of Chang Chih-tung's successor at Nanking. Yu Chih-kai is a Hunan man, who has been Provincial Judge of Szechuen and Treasurer and Acting Governor of Kuangtung. He retired in May, 1890:—

I went on Saturday evening to the quarters of the Sheng battalion and during a close conversation with the people there learned the following:—

1.—A decree has arrived mentioning that Governor T'an had been denounced.

2.—Yu Chih-kai has been ordered by decree to the Viceroyship of the Liangkiang provinces.

3.—That Chang Chih-tung would probably return to the Hukuang.

4.—That Governor T'an in obeying instructions to disband the superfluous regiments garrisoning Wuchang was in fear of his life and had brought 500 troops into his yamen as a guard.

5.—On the 12th as the acting Treasurer Lung Hsi-ch'ing was passing through the main street of Wuchang city making calls, he was accosted by a large number of the garrison, who used threatening language and even made a show of using personal violence to the Treasurer. The latter seemed to be in great trepidation and went twice to the Governor's yamen to consult on this matter (of disbanding the garrison). It is probable that the disbandment will be deferred until Chang Chih-tung shall have returned to Wuchang. The regiments to be disbanded, however, demand a bonus of several months' pay before they would consent to disband peacefully.

6.—It was also mentioned in conversation to the effect that Tê Shou, Governor-Designate of Hunan, passed through Hankow incog. the other day, but that instead of proceeding to his post (Hunan) he went straight on to Szechuen. This conduct is the subject of wonder and conjecture amongst all of us. Wu Ta-ch'eng, the deposed Governor of Hunan, is still at his post and will not go up to Peking yet awhile.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A counterfeit coin manufactory has been discovered and broken up at Macao. Ten and twenty cent pieces were being struck from dies which appeared to have come from the Canton Mint. In the earlier days of that establishment the worn out dies were not destroyed and it is believed that a good many of them are in use by counterfeiters.

A NAVAL DEMONSTRATION.

Shanghai, 21st September.

It is evident that the British are making a kind of naval demonstration on the Yangtze. The *Eolus* left Chefoo under secret orders and, after remaining a short time at Woosung, proceeded to Nanking and is now moored off that city, not at the usual anchorage, but in such a position as to be able to do considerable damage if required. The *Spartan* was passed to-day near the Langshan Crossing, steaming at full speed on her way to Nanking. Our Nanking correspondent informs us, according to what he could learn, that other British vessels besides these are to follow. Immediately on arrival the commander of the *Eolus* sent a long telegraphic despatch away to the Admiral. It is evident by the movements of these vessels and from what we can gather that a naval demonstration is to be made on the Yangtze, and this, no doubt, is the reason for not having other British men-of-war at Foochow. Probably Admiral Buller is acting under instructions from home, and that the British Government intends to let China know that she has had quite sufficient of missionary murders and riots. If such is the case we are sure every foreigner in the Far East will welcome the action taken by England. We do not think that it means any harm to Nanking or Chang Chih-tung, as his province of late has been exempt from murders and riots. But no doubt, when a sufficient number of war vessels have congregated, they will move up towards Hangyang, opposite to Hankow, where threats have been made to exterminate the hated foreigner. Or they may make a call at Kiukiang where the Chinese are defying the British with regard to the Kuliang affair. Let us hope the British lion is in earnest and that he is about to show his teeth and claws to some purpose.—*Mercury*.

THE NEW GERMAN CONCESSION AT HANKOW.

The Hankow correspondent of the *China Gazette* writes under date of 13th September:—

Our German neighbours are going ahead. Yesterday a large turn out of native officials, along with the Consul-General from Shanghai, were busily engaged measuring out a German Concession, and placing the boundary stones. The site of it is on the river side immediately below the city wall; and in area it exceeds the British Concession. There has been a good deal of land speculation in that corner recently, as some folks have got it into their heads that all the grand railways which are to be in the near future will centre there; hence its value has gone up with leaps and bounds till paddy-fields and cabbage gardens are supposed to be worth as much as first-class raised lots in our well roaded, bounded, and perfectly finished settlement were a year or two ago. It is to be hoped history will not repeat itself in this instance. When the English Concession was first laid off, the bare unimproved lots, brought more than they have ever done since and happy was the man who had his fortune in them! But a dozen years saw a great change, when £1,000 lots changed hands for such figures as \$9, 15s. 15, or were even given away for nothing to save the taxes.

Chang Chih-tung's iron works, after being first under English management and then Belgian, have now passed beneath the hands of all the conquering Germans. It will be a good day for His Excellency if it is found possible to make a success of some or other of their manifold departments, if not of all; for up till now the concern has been the biggest of the long list of our famous Viceroy's failures.

The death of Mr. F. B. Aubert, which occurred in the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 23rd September, after a short illness, will, the *China Gazette* says, be deeply regretted in local sporting circles, for a better or more thorough-going sport than Mr. Aubert never came to Shanghai. He had been in Shanghai for 23 years, during which he made innumerable friends in every treaty port of China. The funeral on the 24th was very largely attended.

THE ATTACK ON TAINAN.

There has been some confusion with respect to the movements of the Japanese forces in Formosa, owing to the similarity of the names "Taiwan" and "Tainan." The two places are quite distinct, the former, which lies 95 miles to the north of the latter, being the chief town of the province of the same name, whereas Tainan is the southern capital—as Taipei is the northern. At Tainan the Black Flags have their headquarters, and there, if anywhere in the island, a stout resistance is to be expected by the Japanese. They took Taiwan without much difficulty, but they anticipate a different state of affairs at Tainan, and are making their preparations accordingly. The various corps forming the Second Division will doubtless be mustered for the assault, and there does not seem to be much probability that the place will be attacked before the early days of next month, by which time the climatic conditions will be better fitted for campaigning purposes than they are at present. According to the Japanese press the Black Flags are expected to prove very formidable adversaries. But we do not share that opinion. It is true that these guerilla warriors gave the French considerable trouble in Tonkin, but if the reason for their trivial successes in 1884-5 be scrutinized, it is seen that they owed incomparably less to their own prowess than to the insufficient preparations of the French. The latter, having undertaken a large task with very inadequate forces, were constantly obliged to entrust duties of outpost, reconnaissance, and even attack, to mere handfuls of men, and these, working under topographical circumstances of extreme difficulty, offered to the Black Flags precisely such opportunities as suited the latter's peculiar tactics. In an open fight Liu's warriors would not have had any chance whatever against the French, and we do not expect that they will make a very serious stand at Tainan, despite the long time they have had at their disposal to make defensive preparations.—*Japan Mail*.

THE MAHOMMEDAN REBELLION.

There was a rumour recently in Peking, writes our native correspondent in that city, to the effect that in consequence of the serious aspect of the Mahommedan rebellion in the North-western provinces, the Emperor had issued a secret decree commanding the Tartar Generals E-k'ò-tang-a and Ch'ang Shun to take two Manchurian army corps, of 15,000 men each, into Shansi and the Mongol territory to the north of that province in order to prevent any eruption of the rebels into the metropolitan province of Chihli, where there are about a million and half Mussulmans, who are dreaded by their Buddhist neighbours for their turbulence and extreme clannishness. While the rebellion is confined to a distance from the metropolitan province there is no occasion to fear a Mussulman outbreak, but at the first intimation of a rebel force penetrating into Chihli, there is little doubt that the Mahommedan population of the province, who can muster over 60,000 strong, hardy and brave fighting men, will join the insurgents. Most of the Mussulmans in Chihli are either carters, muleteers, or horse-herds: the latter a most unruly class, constantly travelling about, armed on Manchu their herds of cattle from the raids of the numerous mounted bandits of Mongolia and Manchuria, who delight in robbing the property of those professing an alien religion. The Tartar troops are to co-operate, wherever practicable, with the various brigades and army corps under Generals Lung, Ma, Sheng, and Lui, now opposing the rebels in Kansu and Szechuen.

An explanation of the apparently unaccountable tardiness of the first-named General in reaching the scene of the rebellion in Kansu has recently been received in Peking. It will be remembered that General Lung is Commander-in-Chief of Kashgaria and had an army of 25,000 men covering Peking in anticipation of Japanese invasion last winter. He was the first to be sent to aid in suppressing the rebellion, upon conclusion of peace last May. But it seems that when his army arrived near the Kansu borders last July, the corps, or rather the

Buddhist portion of it, came very near being exterminated by a conspiracy amongst the Mahommedan battalions, who number a good third of General Tung's forces. It was intended to massacre the Buddhists on the night of the 16th of July last, the only one to be spared being General Tung himself, who is a Buddhist, and is much respected by his troops, Mahommedan and Buddhist alike. As General Tung's influence is very great in Kansu—his native province, he being a native of Ninghsia—it was intended to carry him, along by compulsion, thus preventing him from using his influence for the Imperial cause. After massacring their Buddhist fellow soldiers, the Mahommedans were to capture the immense supplies of arms and ammunition carried by General Tung for the arming of the Buddhist population of Kansu, who were expected to join his ranks in large numbers, and then, after declaring for Mahmoud Khan, of Haich'eng, the Mahommedan rebel king, the mutineers were to attack the rear of the Imperial army under General Liu, who is opposing the rebels in Lanchou prefecture, and so effect a junction with their co-religionists. All these facts came out through the confession of an ex-Buddhist officer in one of the Mahommedan cavalry battalions of General Tung's army, who during the first Mahommedan rebellion in the sixties had turned Mussulman in order to save his life. It seems that this officer secretly, and three hours before the massacre was to begin, went to General Tung's tent and revealed everything. The latter took instant steps to arrest the ringleaders without causing alarm amongst the Mahommedan troops and then quietly sent these regiments on various errands, some to distances forty miles off to guard the line of communications between headquarters and Peking, while others—the cavalry—had orders to go to Chihli to escort the grain carts back for the supply of the army. So quietly was all this done by General Tung that the various Mahommedan regiments had no time allowed them to communicate with each other before starting on their new duties, so that by the time settled for the massacre, two o'clock in the morning, only two Mussulman regiments of 650 men each were left in an army of nearly 15,000 Buddhists. At daybreak the dozen or so ringleaders were executed before the army. But by the separation of such a large force—6,500 men—from the main army at a critical moment, General Tung's plans were momentarily disarranged, which necessitated his waiting for a reinforcement of 5,000 men raised by his nephew from the prefecture of Ninghsia, before the forward movement of the army could be made. Nearing Lanchou on the 23rd of August, General Tung's army had a serious battle with a superior force of the rebels, but he succeeded in driving the enemy towards Sining, which was at once besieged by the latter.

News has also arrived at the Board of War reporting that the civil and military authorities of Kuyuan, an important city of Kansu, had been murdered by the Mahommedan population of the city, which is now held by them. The telegraph lines were cut by the rebels and for a whole fortnight no news could be got from Kansu west of Kuyuan, but by his recent victory General Tung has been able to restore communication. The Szechuen Viceroy Lu has recently received orders to despatch a large force to the Shensi borders to prevent the rebellion from moving southwards via Szechuen to the great southern headquarters of the sect, Yunnan.—*N. C. Daily News.*

Thus the *Japan Mail*:—"Great Britain has not at her command any servants quite up to the standard of local Oriental criticism. All are found wanting when weighed in the balance by the illustrious publicists that occupy editorial chairs in the Far East, and it must be a satisfaction to Sir Nicholas O'Connor to reflect that the signal promotion conferred on him by his Government not only benefits his reputation and his pocket, but also removes him to a sphere where his actions will be analysed by the comparatively feeble and perfunctory light of journals like *The Times*, the *Standard*, and the *Daily News*."

MORE JAPANESE TROOPS FOR FORMOSA.

Shimonoseki, 21st September.

Another brigade of the Sendai division, now garrisoning the Liaotung peninsula, will leave Port Arthur on the 2nd proximo for South Formosa.

A further shipment of a million silver yen has been made to Formosa for military expenses. A fresh batch of workmen and coolies to the number of 160 have been despatched from Ujina to the Pescadores, with all the requisite materials for building a permanent military hospital there.

Police to the number of 785 have left Ujina and Kagoshima for Formosa within the past couple of days. Mr. Maki, one of the new district governors of Formosa, has left Ujina to take up his post.—*China Gazette.*

TERRIBLE EXPLOSION IN A HUPEH COAL-MINE.

Shanghai, 24th September.

Information has reached us that last week a terrible explosion occurred in the extensive coal-mine opened by Chang Chih-tung at Man-gan-san, in Hupeh province, a little above Hankow. The mine was in charge of two Belgian experts, Mr. Koehne, the engineer in charge of the mine, and Mr. Baumogger, the foreman coke burner. The explosion was caused by the ignition of "fire-damp" and the first report that reached Hankow was that 100 men had been killed. Dr. Cuypers immediately left Hanyang for the scene of the disaster in company with the chief mining engineer, Mr. Marx. A later report received by telegram states that the number of deaths is sixty, but that a very large number of men are seriously injured.—*China Gazette.*

HONGKONG.

There have been heavy showers during the past week, but they have not made much difference to the reservoir. The supply has been cut short, and it is almost certain that the residents will be on short allowance until next year. The Sanitary Board met on Thursday and transacted some important business. There was an attempted murder in Stanley Street on Friday. In the afternoon of the same day the plague medals were distributed to the police by Hon. W. C. H. Hastings. The Victoria Recreation Club sports were held on Friday and Saturday in miserable weather. A meeting of the China Traders' Insurance Company was held on Saturday. On Monday the shareholders of the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company decided to reduce the capital of the Company; the directors were divided in opinion on the subject.

There were 2,128 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 148 were Europeans.

The postponed match between Captain Loveband's The Friar and Mr. Hart Buck's Voltigeur, owners up, was run on Monday afternoon and won easily by Voltigeur.

As will be seen from the report of the meeting of the Sanitary Board on Thursday, the washermen do not take kindly to the new law recently passed for the regulation of laundries.

The new British dollar is rapidly coming into general circulation. In payments made in silver almost as many of these coins will now be found as of Japanese yen, while the unsightly chopped Mexican is gradually disappearing.

The first class gold medal for long service and good conduct in the Police Force has been awarded to Acting Chief Inspector Corcoran on the recommendation of Hon. Commissioner W. C. H. Hastings, Acting Superintendent of Police.

A man named Marque, a native of Zanzibar, arrived a few days ago by the *Ixion*, and on Thursday he went to visit some friends at 14, Lower Lascar Row. On leaving the house he stumbled on the second floor and fell down the smoke hole a distance of about forty feet. He sustained serious injuries, which were attended to at the Government Civil Hospital.

A man named Tang Kwai-shan either jumped or fell overboard from the steamer *Sing Ping* on Wednesday night while she was lying at the China Merchants' Wharf. His body was not recovered. Some time ago the man tried to hang himself.

On the 24th ult. Mr. D. Macrae, foreman at the China Sugar Refinery, East Point, made a desperate attempt to destroy his own life. He went to his bedroom in Blue Buildings and shortly afterwards his wife, who was in another room, heard the report of a revolver being fired. She ran into the bedroom, where she found that her husband had shot himself through the head. The bullet had entered near his right ear. She at once sent for the police and Dr. Stedman. The medical gentleman attended as soon as possible and ordered Macrae's removal to the Government Civil Hospital, where he was attended by Dr. Lowson, who succeeded in extracting the bullet. It is likely that Macrae will recover.

The Belilios Trustees have from the scholarship funds Nos. 1 and 3, established some years ago by Hon. E. R. Belilios, C.M.G., awarded seven scholarships to students at present pursuing a medical course at the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals in connection with the College of Medicine for Chinese. Each scholarship is of the value of £100, and is tenable for a year, but may be renewed yearly during the five years' curriculum, subject to report as to the conduct and progress of the scholars. The present Belilios medical scholars are:—Students of the third year, Kwong Ngai Leung, Li King Shan, To Ying Fan, Chan Kum Shing; second year, Ho Nai Hop, Tong Fuo Man; first year, Kong Wai Shin.

The annual general meeting of the Hongkong Cricket Club was held on Friday in the Pavilion. Mr. A. Coxon presided, and there was a large attendance of members. The principal business was the election of officers and the consideration of a new set of rules which had been drafted by the Committee, for the confirmation of which an extraordinary meeting was held immediately after the primary meeting. The following officers were elected for the ensuing season:—Mr. A. Coxon, President; Mr. E. A. Ram, Hon. Secretary; Mr. F. Maitland, Hon. Treasurer; Dr. J. A. Lowson, Hon. A. K. Travers, Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, Mr. A. Anderson, Mr. S. L. Darby, and Captain Eccles, R.B., members of Committee. The new rules were then discussed and eventually passed with a few amendments.

A very impudent and systematic robbery of coal was investigated at the Police Court on Thursday by Hon. H. E. Wodehouse. A coal merchant has a large quantity of coal stored at 10, Tai Wong Lane, and this house is joined at the back with 19, Tai Wong Street. The coal merchant was continually missing large quantities of coal from his store and he was at a loss to know how it went. A day or two ago he found that a hole had been made in the wall dividing his house from 19, Tai Wong Street, and further investigation led to the discovery of two tons of coal in No. 19 and about three tons in 21, Tai Wong Street. The whole of this coal had been taken through the hole, and the police having been informed of the robbery they arrested the thief. Yesterday he was sent to gaol for six months, and the coal was ordered to be returned to the rightful owner.

Pawnbrokers in Hongkong are not a particularly honest lot. They seldom assist the police in tracing stolen property, and usually place all possible obstacles in the way of the police to prevent the capture of thieves. However, a straightforward pawnbroker has been unearthed. Some days ago a watch and chain belonging to Sergeant Ramagè, of the Royal Engineers, were stolen from the East block barracks, and the police sent a description of the articles in the ordinary way to all the pawnbrokers in the colony. On Wednesday a coolie presented himself at a pawnbroker's establishment in Queen's Road Central and offered the stolen watch and chain in pledge. The pawnbroker recognised the articles, went round the counter, caught hold of the coolie, and marched him off to the police station, where he was charged with unlawful possession of the property. He was taken before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse on Thursday and fined \$40 or two months' imprisonment.

At a regular convocation of St. Andrew's Chapter, 218 S.C., held on the 23rd inst., the following office bearers were elected and installed for the ensuing year:—M.E.Z., M.E. Comp. McIsaacs; E.H., E. Comp. Mollison; E.J., E. Comp. Wilson; S.E., E. Comp. Spafford; S.N., Comp. Bridger; P.S., Comp. Lothead; First Assist. S., Comp. McKinley; Second Assist. S., Comp. White; Treasurer, Comp. Lesbirel; Steward, Comp. Stainfield; Chancellor, Comp. McKenzie; I.G., M.E. Comp. King; Janitor, Comp. Maxwell.

The birthday of His Faithful Majesty Dom Carlos I. of Portugal was celebrated on Saturday by the Portuguese community of this colony. During the afternoon Mr. Romano, the Consul-General for Portugal, held a reception at his residence "Duart," which was attended by several members of the consular body and a good number of the Portuguese residents. In the evening there was a dinner at the Club Lusitano, presided over by Mr. Romano as President of that institution. The façade of the building was nicely illuminated by gas, but the effect was somewhat marred by the heavy rain.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A large number of carpenters and other working men having lately been despatched to Formosa and Weihaiwei for constructing barracks, wages have risen a great deal in Tokyo, we learn from the *Japan Mail*, and a scarcity of expert labourers is causing much inconvenience to the builders there. Not only wages, but building materials have risen, as these latter are also being sent to Formosa and Weihaiwei.

The statements of the eleven Japanese prisoners (including one soldier and ten coolies), who were recently returned by China, show, says the *Japan Gazette*, that they were robbed of all the money they had carried with them and subjected to the cruellest treatment and tortures. Every one of them had his hair shaven off in the Chinese style, leaving a lock in the centre of the head so as to make a queue in time. When they were being returned they were given Chinese dresses and shoes and four taels each. But this favour was a mockery, as the sums they had been plundered of were much more than they received.

With reference to the prospectus of the Cherubang Gold Mining and Exploration Co., Limited, recently advertised at home, Singapore people want to know, according to the *Straits Times*, who is the director described as "Lieut. Col. W. T. Ellis, Rydes-hill House, Guildford, and Selangor, Straits Settlements." If the director named is he who for a time commanded a regiment stationed at Tanglin Barracks, in Singapore, the use of the word Selangor surely amounts to a misdescription. Assuming that Lieut. Col. Ellis has acquired some property in Selangor, surely that would not justify a prospectus statement calculated to convey the idea that Col. Ellis is a person so habitually associated with a Malay state as to have the name of that state used as his address or identification. It seems odd.

A strike of waiters at dinner time is rather a disagreeable experience. At Yokohama on the 16th September, we learn from the *Japan Gazette*, about seven o'clock in the evening the boys at the Club Hotel struck, and a minute or two later there was not a servant in the hotel. For the management the situation, which was wholly unexpected, was most embarrassing, as guests were wanting their dinner and the meal was ready to be served. Amongst the guests, however, the best possible feeling was shown. When the position of affairs was explained several ladies staying in the hotel offered the services of their maids as waitresses, and these offers being gladly accepted and two or three boys having been sent by a resident anxious to help the manager out of the difficulty, dinner was served. Apparently the only reason for the strike is that the boys object to supervision of any sort. We understand that a number of Chinese, while on their way to the hotel to apply for the posts vacated by the Japanese boys, were met by the strikers and "advised" to go back. They promptly acted on the "advice" and returned to Chinatown. Up to this evening (17th) none of the boys had returned to the hotel, but several new boys have been engaged.

The *Océanien*, which arrived at Shanghai on the 21st September from Hongkong, experienced very bad weather after leaving the Lamocks. Some damage was done on deck, to the boats, and to the bridge, and the battery was flooded. The barometer when she left Hongkong stood at 30 inches, and it gave little or no warning of the storm which struck the *Océanien*, near the entrance to the Formosa Channel, with such suddenness that much more damage would have been done, had her awnings not been fortunately furled. The storm was so sudden that it did not seriously affect the barometer, the lowest reading of which was 29.53.

The following figures, taken from Japanese returns, compare the value of the imports and exports during the August of this year with the figures for August, 1894, and, as will be seen, show a fairly substantial increase:—

	August, 1895.	August, 1894.
yen.	yen.	
Exports	16,269,954	11,131,786
Imports	11,820,847	10,782,848

Imports, as will be seen, do not show such a large increase as exports, the reason probably being that last year the returns were swelled by the number of foreign steamers bought by Japanese. That the imports should notwithstanding show an increase this year is a very satisfactory indication of the prosperity of the country.—*Kobe Chronicle*.

The *Japan Mail* says:—There is a tendency in certain medical circles in the capital to attack Dr. Kitazato on the ground that he shows little respect for the lives of his patients by making them the subjects of experiment with his new method of treating cholera. The public in general regard this movement as the result of professional jealousy, but the worthy doctors must be credited with some sense in preferring a charge of the kind. The question depends upon the nature of the method invented by the great bacteriologist. He doubtless thinks that his new method of treatment is sufficiently advanced to be tried on patients, but many of the metropolitan physicians seem to doubt it. It is not, however, necessary for us to pronounce any opinion on the matter.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1895-96	1894-95
lbs.	lbs.	
Canton and Macao	4,517,716	4,116,765
Foochow	11,175,408	14,357,218
Shanghai and Hankow	15,295,237	14,215,179
	30,988,361	32,689,192

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96	1894-95
lbs.	lbs.	
Amoy	7,967,866	10,395,668
Foochow	6,006,651	4,626,555
Shanghai	16,718,669	16,107,915
	20,783,386	31,130,138

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1895-96	1894-95
lbs.	lbs.	
Hankow and Shanghai	27,040,068	22,555,223

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96	1894-95
lbs.	lbs.	
Yokohama	24,709,878	23,755,433
Kobe	14,710,662	11,965,437
	39,450,540	35,720,870

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 26th September.—(From Messrs. Cromie and Burkill's circular.)—The London market on the 24th current is reported "firmer." The quotation for Blue Elephants has advanced to 10/6, but Gold Kiling remains unchanged at 8/3. Raw Silk.—A fair daily business is passing at very firm rates. Holders are confident that present rates will be maintained, as prices in the interior are higher. Settlements for the week are 1,500 bales. Tsatlees.—Continue in steady

demand, but show very little change in quotations. Hangchow Tsatlees, Lanhook, has been settled at Tls. 333½. Taysaams.—Small transactions at slightly advanced rates. Yellow Silks.—Are enquired for at quotations which show a tendency to advance. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns from the 19th to the 25th inst., are 1,107 bales of White, 425 bales of Yellow and 137 bales of Wild Silk. Re-reels and Filatures.—Contracts continue to be made for filatures at unchanged prices to a moderate extent. Wild Silks.—We hear of no business. Waste Silk.—The market is quiet but firm. We quote: Compoo Frisonets 1/10, 2/10, 3/10 per cent. Tls. 21½, Compoo Crapauds (loaded) at Tls. 21½, Shantung long Waste at Tls. 26, and Houain Bassinets at Tls. 20½. Charles usual assortment have been sold at Tls. 59½, and No. 1 alone at Tls. 68. Pongees.—Are quiet but firm.

Purchases include:—Tsatlees.—Black Lion 3 at Tls. 487½, per picul, ditto, 4 at Tls. 437½, Mountain 4 at Tls. 382½, Gold Kiling Tls. 347½, Blue Phoenix Tls. 335. Hangchow Tsatlees.—Lanhook Tls. 333½. Taysaam.—Gr. Kahing M. Tls. 337½. Yellow Silk.—Mienchew Tls. 257½, Meeyang Tls. 235, Foojung Tls. 210. Filature.—Woo San Dong Croisée 1 Tls. 575, Red Pagoda (not Croisée) 1 Tls. 505.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1895-96	1894-95
bales.	bales.	
Shanghai	28,054	16,931
Canton	6,806	5,608
Yokohama	2,286	6,270
	44,146	28,809

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1895-96	1894-95
bales.	bales.	
Canton	4,623	3,398
Shanghai	3,487	1,901
Yokohama	8,224	6,260
	16,334	11,559

HONGKONG, 1st October.—The price is still advancing and holders remain very firm. Quotations for Formosa are \$94.00 to \$94.50. During the past week sales have been 10 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 1st October.—The market is looking up and prices have slightly advanced. Following are the quotations:—

Sheshloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.29 to 7.32 per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.91 to 6.94 "
Sheshloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.80 to 4.82 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.67 to 4.70 "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.22 to 7.24 "
do. " 2, White...	6.82 to 6.85 "
do. " 1, Brown...	4.47 to 4.50 "
Swatow, No. 2, Brown...	4.39 to 4.42 "
Foochow Sugar Candy	10.30 to 10.35 "
Seshloong "	8.85 to 8.90 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The steamer *Sydney*, Hongkong to Continent, 18th September, took:—468 bales Raw Silk, 100 bales Waste Silk, 26 bales Hair, 9 cases Silk Piece Goods, 19 cases Chinaware, 150 cases Cassia, 6 cases Hlang Hlang, 1 case Woodenware, 205 packages Tea, and 4 packages Rattan Chairs; for London:—2 cases Silk Piece Goods.

The steamer *Myrridon*, Hongkong to London, 19th September, took:—10,876 packages Tea 215,733 lbs. Scented Caper, 2,625 lbs. Scented Orange Pekoe, 4,788 lbs. Congou, 524 bales Hemp, 225 bales Waste Silk, 10 cases Bristles, 375 cases Ginger, 620 cases Ginger, 9 cases Cigars, 9 packages Sundries, 83 bales Canes, and 3 cases Preserves; for London option Manchester:—50 bales Waste Silk; for London option New York:—8 cases Hats; for Liverpool:—9 cases Books and 2 packages Sundries; for Glasgow:—5 packages Sundries.

The British steamship *Oolong*, Hongkong to London, 23rd September, took:—530 boxes Tea (7,560 lbs. Congou, 3,570 lbs. Scented Orange Pekoe), 1,500 pieces Empty Iron Drums, 261 packages Preserves, 60 bales Hammocks, 50 bales Waste Silk, 27 cases Chinaware, 18 cases Rattanware, 10 cases Soy, 10 packages Hambooware, 9 packages Feathers, and 3 packages Sundries; for Glasgow:—80 cases Dry Ginger. From Macao for Buenos Ayres:—650 packages Tea.

The P. & O. steamer *Khedive*, Hongkong to London, 26th September, took:—10 cases Lily Bulbs, 2 cases Cigars, 30 bales Raw Silk, 35 cases Silk Piece Goods, 102 bales Cigars, 30 rolls Matting, and 2 cases Sundries; for France:—809 packages Tea, 844 bales Raw Silk, 68 bales Pierced Cocoons, and 1 case Silk Piece Goods.

The steamer *Irion*, Hongkong to London, 28th September, took:—7,701 boxes Tea (150,276 lbs. Scented Caper, 5,985 lbs. Scented Orange Pekoe, 5,460 lbs. Congou), 42 cases Cigars, 1 box Gold, 8 Beans, 339 bags Gum, 31 baskets Shells, 5,055 bags bales Hemp, 8 packages Sundries, 190 bales Waste Silk, 100 casks Ginger, 1,952 cases Preserves, 5 casks Soy, 69 boxes Chinaware, 50 bales Canes, and 41 boxes Essential Oil; for London option Manchester:—50 bales Waste Silk; for Bremen:—4 cases Cigars; for Liverpool:—750 bales Hemp; for Glasgow:—10 packages Straw Baskets and 2 cases Sundries.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 1st October.—Bengal.—There has been an improvement in the market during the interval and rates close steady at \$722½ for New Patna, \$723½ for New Benares, and at \$695 for Old Benares. Old Patna is quoted nominally at \$715.

Malwa.—A small advance has taken place in the prices for this drug, the following being the latest figures:—

New \$690 with a'wance of 0 to 3½ cts.
Old (2 years).....\$720 " " 1½ to 2½ "
Older\$730 " " 1 to 2½ "

Persian.—There has not been any change in prices and quotations continue at \$660 to \$700 for Oily and at \$740 to \$865 for Paper-wrapped according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna	1,790 chests.
Old Patna	44 "
New Benares	370 "
Old Benares	170 "
Malwa	850 "
Persian	800 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1895.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Sept 26	715	710	715	685	690	720/73
Sept 27	710	700	711½	682½	690	720/730
Sept 28	715	700	715	685	690	720/730
Sept 29	717½	700	717½	685	690	720/730
Sept 30	722½	705	722½	690	690	720/730
Oct 1	722½	715	723½	695	690	720/730

RICE.

HONGKONG, 1st October.—The market has last fallen in the last few days, but the crop prospects are favourable. Prices have consequently weakened a little. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	per picul.
Round, good quality	2.08 to 2.10
Long	2.41 to 2.43
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	2.52 to 2.55
Garden, " No. 1	2.10 to 2.12
Siam White	2.54 to 2.56
Fine Cargo	3.10 to 3.13
	3.21 to 3.24

COALS.

HONGKONG, 1st October.—The market is very weak. Very little business in Japanese coal reported at low prices ex godown. Quotations are:—

Cardiff	\$12.00 to 13.00 ex ship, sellers.
Australian	— to 7.50 ex godown, nominal.
Milke Lump	6.00 to 6.25 ex ship, nominal.
Milke Small	5.00 to 5.25 ex ship, nominal.
Moji Lump	4.00 to 5.25 ex ship, nominal.
Kebao Lump	6.00 to 7.00 ex ship, nominal.
Kebao Small	4.00 to 4.50 ex ship, nominal.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 1st October.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn.—50 bales No. 8 at \$66, 275 bales No. 10 at \$62.50 to \$73.75, 300 bales No. 12 at \$72.50 to \$75, 245 bales No. 20 at \$82.50 to \$84.50. Grey Shirtings.—1,200 pieces 8½ lbs. Red Peach at \$2.60, 1,500 pieces 10 lbs. Stag Chop at \$3.85 to \$3.87½, 2,000 pieces 10 lbs. Flower Vase at \$3.87½ to \$3.90, 300 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Cock at \$2.50, 1,500 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Joss B., at \$2.92½ to \$2.95, 1,500

pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Fish at 2.37½ to \$2.42½, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$3.82½, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Stag at \$3.80, 1,500 pieces 11 lbs. Flower at \$3.20, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. Red 5 Men at \$3.10. White Shirtings.—500 pieces Gold Joss at \$3.15, 250 pieces No. 1,000 Steamer at \$3.37½, 3,500 pieces S.Q. at \$4.10½, 500 pieces S.O. at \$3.90, 500 pieces Gold Goose at \$4, 1,500 pieces D. 70 at \$3.40, 600 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.40, 750 pieces 5 R. at \$4.25, 1,000 pieces No. 300 at \$3.45, to \$3.47½, 500 pieces Green Large Stag at \$3.30, 1,500 pieces No. 600 at \$4.15 to \$4.20, 1,000 pieces S. S. at \$4.40 to \$4.45, 1,000 pieces Gold Elephant at \$3.67½, 450 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.45 to \$5.47½, 1,000 pieces Fan at \$4.90, 1,000 pieces Soldier Chop at \$2.52½, 300 pieces O. K. at \$4.65, 300 pieces E. K. at \$5.65, 500 pieces No. 100 at \$2.20, 250 pieces Gold Joss B. at \$3.20, 500 pieces Flower at \$4.62½, 500 pieces S. T. at \$3.50, 500 pieces Shoemaker at \$2.25. Victoria Lawns.—5,000 pieces Lion at \$0.62½. Drills.—150 pieces 14 lbs. Double Heads at \$3.10, 450 pieces 14 lbs. C. Mark at \$4.65. T-Cloths.—1,875 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. Silver Pheasant at \$1.75, 1,500 pieces 7 lbs. Mixed Red Stag at \$2.30 to \$2.32½, 1,200 pieces 7 lbs. V. V. at \$2.87½ to \$2.90, 375 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. Gold Dragon at \$2.32½, 3,500 pieces 6 lbs. Bombay at \$1.60, 2,250 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. B. Dragon B. B. at \$2.25 to \$2.27. Spanish Stripes.—360 pieces Green Dragon assorted at \$0.65. Camlets.—200 pieces V. V. assorted at \$18.05, 200 pieces Bird and Flower assorted at \$17.25, 200 pieces Stag assorted at \$14.

METALS.—Iron.—1,000 bundles hoops at \$3.97½, 1,000 bundles small round rods at \$3.15½, 1,000 bundles nail rods Belgian at \$3.15½. Tin.—150 slabs Malacca at \$35.50.

COTTON YARN.

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20	per bale
English—Nos. 16 to 24	\$62.00 to \$87.00
" 22 to 24	97.00 to 101.00
" 28 to 32	97.50 to 103.00
" 38 to 42	105.00 to 110.00
	116.00 to 124.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—6lbs.	per piece
7lbs.	1.25 to 1.35
8.4 lbs.	1.75 to 2.00
9 to 10 lbs.	1.95 to 2.90
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	3.10 to 3.75
58 to 60 "	2.00 to 2.25
64 to 66 "	2.40 to 3.00
Fine	3.10 to 3.50
Book-folds.	3.80 to 6.30
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	2.80 to 5.00
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	0.58 to 1.20
7lbs. (32 ")	1.30 to 1.35
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	1.72 to 1.90
7lbs. (32 ")	1.50 to 1.60
8 to 8½ lbs. (36 in.)	1.95 to 2.20
14lbs.	2.15 to 2.90
English—40 yds. 13½ to 14lbs.	3.00 to 4.10

FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5lbs.	per yard
Brocades—Dyed	1.30 to 2.85
Damasks	3.65 to 4.50
Chintzes—Assorted	per yard
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.12 to 0.16
Velveteens—18 in.	0.07 to 0.11
	0.20 to 0.30
	0.17 to 0.20

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.40 to 0.80
WOOLLENS

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	per yard
German	0.55 to 0.85
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.	0.95 to 1.10
Long Ells—Scarlet	1.20 to 2.60
Assorted	per piece
Camlets—Assorted	6.30 to 7.40
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted	6.40 to 7.50
	13.00 to 29.00
Orleans—Plain	13.50 to 21.00
Blankets—8 to 12½ lbs.	3.70 to 4.90
	per pair
	4.50 to 9.00

METALS

Iron—Nail Rod	per picul
Square, Flat Round Bar ...	2.85 to —
Swedish Bar	2.85 to —
Small Round Rod	4.40 to —
Hoop	3.00 to 3.05
Old Wire Rope	4.00 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	3.00 to —
	per case
Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/28 oz.	25.00 to —
Vivian's, 16/32 oz.	24.50 to —
Elliot's, 16/28 oz.	24.50 to —
Tin	86.50 to —

Tin-Plates	per box
Steel	— to —
SUNDRIES	per cwt. case
Quicksilver	5.30 to —
Window Glass	per picul
Kerosene Oil	117.00 to —
	per box
	3.20 to —
	per 10-gal. case
	1.72 to —

SHANGHAI, 26th September.—(From Mr. Geo. W. Noël's report.)—The demand noticed in the last report has continued throughout the week, but at the close the strong advices from Manchester has caused most importers to practically withdraw their holdings from the market. Although prices here have, for some weeks now, been considerably below the cost of replacing, it has been impossible to raise them adequately, as the natives are able to supply the current demand from their own holdings, bought just as cheaply. If a firm policy is now pursued, however, there is no reason why values here should not be raised relatively with those ruling in the home markets, as the bulk of the indents that have gone through the last month or two are on a sterling basis, and there is not the slightest reason to hope that exchange will go up sufficiently, before they have to be paid for, to make up for the enhanced cost at which they have been bought. Considering the small stocks available quite a fair spot business has been done in 8.4-lbs. Shirtings, Drills, and Sheetings, prices for the latter showing a decided improvement, but supplies are very moderate. Indenting has been quite out of the question, but one or two importers have been able to profitably turn over some of their purchases made in Manchester early last month, and in this way quite a respectable business must have been done, the dearthness of American goods causing special attention to be paid to similar makes from Manchester. Satisfactory advices of the markets in the interior continue to be received, and, with the exception of an uprising in the far off north-western provinces, that can scarcely have any bearing on Foreign trade, the country appears to have recovered almost entirely from the effects of the war, and serious attention is being paid to the question of railways, and the introduction of more modern ideas generally. Looking at the auction prices it is evident the dealers do not realise the very firm position of the home markets for both Cottons and Woollens, in the face of which the results can only be regarded as unsatisfactory. The autumn settling-day, which is just ahead, may possibly be accountable to some extent, at all events that is the only explanation obtainable. Telegrams from Manchester to-day report the market excited and quotations again higher. Cotton has gone up to 4½d., a short crop being now assured, Messrs. Neil Bros. estimating it at 7,250,000 bales. According to the latest mail advices from the States, where the markets are also almost unapproachable, the home consumption has been so great that the bulk of the expected surplus of last year's crop, some 2,000,000 bales, has been absorbed, as if this new estimate is anywhere near correct the supply must be under requirements. This should give a further stimulus to the local industry.

WEDNESDAY, 1st October. CLOSING QUOTATIONS. EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/2½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/3
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.77
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.83
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.24
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	53½
Credits, 60 days' sight	55
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	195
Bank, on demand	195½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	195
Bank, on demand	195½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½

ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	par.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	3 % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 % dis.
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$8.93
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	47.30

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 1st October.—A fairly brisk business has been done during the week under review, rates have been well maintained and in many cases show a substantial advance. Market generally closes steady at quotations.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai.—A small but steady demand at 185 and 186 per cent. prem. was met by sellers; a sale is reported at 191 per cent. prem. for the 31st inst., upon which in the absence of any cash sales we base our quotation of 189 per cent. prem.; at time of writing, however, shares are obtainable at a point lower both for cash and the end of the month. Nationals have been in fair demand, and have changed hands at \$28½, \$29, and \$30. Bank of China & Co. continue neglected.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have ruled rather quieter with sales at 182½. Cantons have found further investing buyers at \$180 in fair quantities, China Traders have been on offer at \$78 cum and \$73 ex div. without leading to business. Yangtszes have gone back to \$121 with sales, and Straits have been negotiated at \$24½ and \$25.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Both Hongkongs and Chinas have ruled somewhat weaker, the former at \$262½, and the latter at \$93½ with sales.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have ruled steady with sales at \$36½ and \$36¾, closing quieter at the former rate. At an extraordinary meeting of shareholders held on the 30th ult. it was decided to pay back 25 per cent. of the capital to shareholders. Douglas's ruled weak during the early part of the week and sales were effected as low as \$61; later, however, on renewed rumours of a probable return of capital the rate quickly rose with sales at \$62, \$62½, and \$63 to \$65, at which rate market closes steady with an upward tendency. Indo-Chinas have been dealt in in fair quantities at \$53½, \$54, \$54½, and \$55 for cash, and at \$54, \$54½, and \$55 for the end of the month chiefly for the north market, closing firm with buyers and no more sellers at latter rates. China Manilas continue neglected.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars in the early part of the week changed hands in fair lots at \$112, \$114, and \$115, bought chiefly if not entirely by the north; at time of writing the demand from the north having ceased shares are obtainable at \$112. Luzons have been again negotiated at \$65, closing steady.

MINING.—Punjoms have ruled neglected and we have only small sales at \$6 and \$6.15 to report. Balmorals have changed hands at \$4, but close weaker. In other mining stock we have nothing to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have continued to advance and sales have been effected at 128, 122, 130, 132, and 135 per cent. prem.; at time of writing, however, shares could probably be obtained at 133 per cent. prem., although none are actually on offer at that rate. Kowloon Wharfs have been dealt in at \$47, closing firm at that rate and a rise may fairly be looked for. We have no further business to report under this heading.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have found buyers at \$66, \$66½, and \$67, market closing steady to strong at latter rate. West Points have further improved to \$22 with sales, and with the prospects of advancing rates and the improvement in properties generally are likely to go still higher.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have continued neglected, offers to sell at \$15 failing to bring out buyers. China Borneos after a long period of inaction have changed hands at \$3½. A. S. Watsons have been going strong with reported sales as high as \$14. At time of writing, however, shares are obtainable at \$13.75. Electrics have found further buyers at \$7 and Bricks at \$10. Ewo Spinning Co. have changed hands at Tls. 20.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	189 p. ct. prem.
China & Japan, prf.	...	nominal
Do. ordinary	£1	nominal
Do. deferred	£1	nominal
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$30
Foun. Shares...	£1	\$30, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	15s.	\$10
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	\$3½, sales & buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$2, buyers
China Sugar	\$100	\$112, sellers
Chinese Loan '86 E.	Tls. 250	10 p. ct. prem.
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	\$1
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	\$10, sales
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$21
Green Island Cement...	\$50	\$15, sellers
H. Brick and Cement...	\$12½	\$7,
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$36
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$110
Hongkong Electric	\$8	\$7, sales & sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$96, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$15, sales
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$96, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$47
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$140, sales
H. & W. Dock	\$125	133 p. ct. prem., [sales]
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$180, sales
China Fire	\$20	\$93½
China Traders'	\$25	\$73, ex div.
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$262½ sellers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 220, buyers
Straits	\$20	\$25, sales & sellers
Union	\$25	\$182½, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$121, sellers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment.	\$50	\$67, buyers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$8½
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$17, sales
West Point Building	\$40	\$22, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$65, sales
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$115, sellers
Jebeu	\$5	\$3.10, sales & buyers
New Balmoral	\$3	\$3.50, sellers
Punjom	\$3½	\$6.15, buyers
Do. (Preference).	\$1	\$1.50, buyers
Rauhs	13s. 10d.	\$4, sales
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$62½
China Shippers	\$5	\$2.10
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$65, sales & sellers
H. Canton and M.	\$20	\$36½, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$54½, sales
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$42½
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$13½, sellers

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 27th September:—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report.)—A very large business was done this week, and most of our principal stocks, with exception of Hongkong and Shanghai Banks, show an improvement. Sumatras have declined. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Several lots of shares have changed hands for cash at 135 per cent. premium, and a transaction is reported for 31st October at 187½. Hongkong quotes buyers at 186 per cent. premium. The London rate is £42.10.0. National Bank of China shares were parted with to Hongkong at \$3½, but shares have since been placed at \$2½. Shipping.—Shanghai Tug Boat Co. shares have been placed at Tls. 145, Indo-China at Tls. 36 to Tls. 39 cash, and \$54 cash and \$56 from Hongkong, for delivery on 31st January. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares at \$36½ to \$36, China Mutual S. N. Ordinary shares with £5 paid up at Tls. 13.50, and Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd. shares at \$63.50 ex div. Docks.—Shares in Boyd & Co. changed hands at Tls. 175 and Tls. 180 cash, and Tls. 175 for 31st October, and S. C. Farnham & Co., Ltd., shares at Tls. 170 to Tls. 180 cash and Tls. 180 to Tls. 185 for delivery on 29th February. Marine Insurance.—China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—Shares have been sold at \$78 both locally and to Hongkong. North-China shares have been placed at Tls. 220 to Tls. 225, and Unions at \$190. Yangtszes have been in strong demand, and shares have been placed for cash at \$110 to \$129, and for 31st December at \$124. There are sellers at these rates. Straits have been sold at \$24½ from Hongkong, and at \$25 locally. Fire Insurance.—Hongkongs were placed at \$250 cash. Hongkong quotes \$260 as the current rate there. Chinas have been in strong demand, and cash shares have changed hands at \$92 to \$93, while on time shares were sold at \$93½ for delivery on 31st December, and \$96 to

\$100 for 31st March. Cash shares are offering at \$93 at the close. Wharves.—Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf shares were sold at \$46. Minin^g—Sheridan Mining shares changed hands at Tls. 2.50. Cargo Boats.—Shanghais were placed at Tls. 170 to Tls. 187½, and Co-operatives at Tls. 145. The latter are wanted at this rate. Miscellaneous.—Business was done in:—Shanghai Gas shares at Tls. 212, in Shanghai Waterworks shares at Tls. 190, in Perak Sugar Cultivation shares at Tls. 33, in China Sugar Refining shares at \$105½ to \$117½, Lugal Sugar Refining shares at \$60 to \$63, Hall & Holtz shares at \$21 to \$24 cum dividend of 5 per cent. due on the 30th current, Shanghai Land Investment shares at Tls. 36 and Tls. 39 to Tls. 40, Hongkong Land Investment shares from Hongkong at \$67, J. Llewellyn & Co. shares at \$30, Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares at Tls. 50, Major Brothers shares at Tls. 29, Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco shares at Tls. 120 to Tls. 105, shares in A. S. Watson & Co. from Hongkong at \$13½ and \$14, Ewo Cotton and Spinning shares at Tls. 20, and Kowloon Land and Building shares at \$18.

Quotations are:—

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—185 per cent. prem.
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited.—Nominal.
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, Founders.—Nominal.
National Bank of China, Ltd., A.—none.
National Bank of China, Ltd., B.—\$28.
National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders.—\$105.
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 14. per sh.
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 39 per sh.
China Mutual Steam Nav. Co.—Tls. 50 per sh.
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 70 per sh.
Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$36 per share.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$63 per share.
Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Tls. 300 per share.
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 18½ per share.
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 180 per share.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—123 per cent. premium.
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$78 per sh.
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 225 p. sh.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$190 per share.
Yangtze Insee. Assocn., Ltd.—\$120 per share.
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$180 per share.
Straits Insurance Co., Limited.—\$25 per share.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—250½ per sh.
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$96 per share.
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 310 per share.
Birt's Wharf Hide-curing and Wool-cleaning Company.—Tls. 50 per share.
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$46 per share.
Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, Limited.—Tls. 2.53 per share.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$5½ per share.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares—\$1.40 per share.
Jebeu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$3.60 p. sh.
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$4 per share.
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 157½ per sh.
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 145 per sh.
Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 212 per share.
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$5.85 per share.
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 130 p. sh.
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 33 p. sh.
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$117½ per sh.
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$63 per share.
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$24 per share.
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.—Tls. 63 per share.
Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$65 per share.
J. Llewellyn & Co., Limited.—\$30 per share.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 50 p. sh.
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 29 per share.
Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 105 p. sh.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 227½ per share.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd., Founder's.—Nominal.
Shanghai Ice Company.—Tls. 120 per share.
A. S. Watson Co., Limited.—\$14 per share.
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—\$1.
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—\$9.50.
Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 20.
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 25.
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.—Tls. 25.
China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company Debentures.—Nominal.
Lyceum Theatre Debentures.—Tls. 12.
Chinese Imp. Gov. Loan, 1886, E.—Tls. 275 (a).
Shanghai Municipal Debentures.—Nominal.

Shanghai Land Investment Company Debentures.—Tls. 100 (a).

Shanghai Land Investment Company Debentures.—Tls. 105 (a).

(a) Exclusive of accrued interest.

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 27th September (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—In our last issue we mentioned that a steamer had been loading in the south in opposition to the New York Conference, and in view of further opposition the situation has been met by the Conference Agents lowering rates all round for New York by 10s. a ton, thus reducing the rate for general cargo to 40s., and that for tea to 35s., at which latter rate large quantities of tea are being shipped. For London there is no change to advise and not much business doing. For London *via* Suez. *Tantalus* sailing on 28th instant and *Glenshiel* and *Benlarig* quick despatch. For New York *via* Suez. The *Keemun* cleared on the 18th instant with a very large cargo, leaving here practically a full ship, only some 200 tons space being reserved for Foochow, which was readily filled at that port. After her departure the reduction in rates referred to above was circulated, and for the *Energia* clearing 2nd proximo large applications have been made for a somewhat limited amount of space, but with the *Braemar* ready to load on the 1st proximo at the same rates, these two steamers should prove sufficient for the immediate requirements of tea shippers, provided unexpected quantities of general cargo do not turn up. For New York, *via* Cape for a vessel shortly expected 25s. is now asked. We should mention that the *Drumeltan* is fully engaged at 21s., and unable to allot any more space. Coastwise:—There is a demand for tonnage from Newchwang to Kobe, and though large carriers are procurable at 18 cents, a suitable steamer is not to be found. Rates of freight are:—From Shanghai to London by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 45s.; tea 50s.; Northern Continental ports, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 45s.; tea 50s.; New York, general cargo 40s.; tea 35s.; New York *via* London, general cargo 50s.; tea 50s.; Boston, general cargo 52s. 6d.; Philadelphia, general cargo 60s. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. London by Shell Line, general cargo 40s. less 10 per cent.; Hamburg, general cargo 35s. net; New York, general cargo 40s. less 10 per cent. Have direct, general cargo 37s. 6d. net; Genoa, tallow 35s.; general cargo 40s. net; Marseilles, tallow 35s.; general cargo 37s. 6d. net. 45s. per ton of 20 cwt. for above three ports. New York by rail 21s.; New York by Pacific Lines, tea 11 cent gold. Coast rates are:—Chinkiang to Canton 12 candareens; Moji to Shanghai \$1 per ton coal nominal; Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1 per ton nominal. No disengaged vessel in port.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Glenshiel* (str.), *Bombay* (str.), *Rosetta* (str.).
For LONDON and ANTWERP.—*Conch* (str.).
For BREMEN.—*Karlsruhe* (str.).
For HAVRE and LONDON.—*Frigga* (str.).
For VICTORIA.—*Hankow* (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Lyndhurst*, *Peru* (str.), *Coptic* (str.).
For NEW YORK.—*P. N. Blanchard*, *Adam W. Spies*, *Sam Skolfield*, *Wandering Jew*, *Engelhorn*, *Energia* (str.), *Saint James*, *Celeste Burrill*.
For AUSTRALIA.—*Canton* (str.), *Changsha* (str.).
For PORTLAND.—*Mount Lebanon* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

September—
26, *Cosmopolit*, German str., from Moji.
26, *Fooksang*, British str., from N'chwang.
26, *St. Louis*, French str., from Java.
27, *Mascotte*, British str., from Moji.
27, *Siam*, British str., from Saigon.
27, *Kriemhild*, German str., from Hamburg.
27, *Arroyo*, British str., from Singapore.
27, *Niobe*, German str., from Kobe.
27, *Priam*, British str., from Liverpool.
27, *Picciola*, German str., from Saigon.
28, *Nanyang*, German str., from Canton.
28, *Donar*, German str., from Bangkok.
28, *Peru*, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
28, *Manila*, British str., from Kobe.
28, *Azamor*, British str., from Kobe.
28, *Amur*, British str., from Manila.
28, *Carmarthenshire*, Brit. str., from K'notzu.
28, *Brindisi*, British str., from London.
28, *Bisagno*, Italian str., from Bombay.
28, *Bentala*, British str., from Kutchinotzu.

28, *Frejr*, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
28, *Hanoi*, French str., from Haiphong.
29, *Canton*, British str., from Shanghai.
29, *Formosa*, British str., from Tamsui.
29, *Glenfalloch*, British str., from Swatow.
29, *Kwanglee*, Chinese str., from Canton.
29, *Nanking*, Norw. str., from Newchwang.
29, *Phra Nang*, British str., from Bangkok.
29, *Taicheong*, German str., from Arve Bay.
30, *Ernest Simons*, Fr. str., from Marseilles.
30, *Menmuir*, British str., from Sydney.
30, *Fooksang*, British str., from Canton.
30, *Wingsang*, British str., from Calcutta.
30, *Formosa*, British str., from London.
30, *Holstein*, German str., from Saigon.
30, *Lyceemoo*, German str., from Chinkiang.
30, *Matsuyama Maru*, Jap. str., from Kelung.

October—

1, *Natal*, French str., from Shanghai.
1, *Haitan*, British str., from Coast Ports.
1, *Luebeck*, German str., from Yokohama.
1, *Ocampo*, British str., from Saigon.
1, *Cosmopolit*, German str., from Canton.
1, *Yuensang*, British str., from Manila.
September—
26, *Kwanglee*, Chinese str., for Canton.
26, *Shantung*, British str., for Sourabaya.
26, *Khedive*, British str., for Europe.
26, *Chingping*, Chinese str., for Chefoo.
26, *Evandale*, British str., for San Francisco.
26, *Fooksang*, British str., for Canton.
26, *Fushun*, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
26, *Hongkong*, French str., for Hoihow.
26, *Palamed*, British str., for Shanghai.
26, *Taisang*, British str., for Canton.
27, *Ladakhs*, British ship, for Manila.
27, *Cosmopolit*, German steamer, for Canton.
27, *Keong Wai*, British str., for Bangkok.
27, *Ancona*, British str., for Yokohama.
27, *Hohenzollern*, German str., for Yokohama.
27, *Ixion*, British str., for London.
27, *Karlsruhe*, German str., for Shanghai.
28, *Catherine Apar*, Brit. str., for Calcutta.
28, *Esmeralda*, British str., for Manila.
28, *Invertay*, British str., for Saigon.
28, *Namoa*, British str., for Coast Ports.
28, *Propontis*, British str., for Singapore.
28, *Rio*, German str., for Amoy.
29, *Arroyo*, British str., for Kobe.
29, *Priam*, British str., for Nagasaki.
29, *Yamashiro Maru*, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
29, *Sam Skolfield*, Amr. ship, for New York.
30, *Canton*, British str., for Canton.
30, *Ernest Simons*, French str., for Shanghai.
30, *Lyceemoo*, German str., for Canton.
30, *Nanyang*, German str., for Shanghai.
30, *Nanking*, Norw. str., for Canton.
30, *Pathan*, British str., for Australia.

October—

1, *Fooksang*, British str., for Canton.
1, *Formosa*, British str., for Swatow.
1, *Frejr*, Danish str., for Hoihow.
1, *Glenfalloch*, British str., for London.
1, *Kriemhild*, German str., for Yokohama.
1, *Kwanglee*, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
1, *Manila*, British str., for London.
1, *Mascotte*, British str., for Hongay.
1, *Matsuyama Maru*, Jap. str., for Kelung.
1, *Menmuir*, British str., for Shanghai.
1, *Taicheong*, German str., for Amoy.

FOOCHOW.

ARRIVALS.

September—
14, *Formosa*, British str., from Hongkong.
14, *Linnat*, British g-bt., from Amoy.
15, *Glenorchy*, British str., from Shanghai.
15, *Caroline*, British cruiser, from Japan.
15, *Brunhilde*, German str., from Japan.
18, *Namoa*, British str., from Hongkong.
20, *Haeshin*, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
20, *Keemun*, British str., from Shanghai.
September—
14, *Loksang*, British str., for Shanghai.
15, *Myrmidon*, British str., for London.
15, *Tainan*, British str., for Australia.
15, *Formosa*, British str., for Tamsui.
17, *Glenorchy*, British str., for London.
20, *Namoa*, British str., for Hongkong.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Pathan*, str., from Kobe.—Messrs. Montgomery and Isiki.
Per *Namoa*, str., from East Coast.—Messrs. Coughtrie and Grant, and 120 Chinese.
Per *Palamed*, str., from Liverpool, &c.—Mrs. Ostend and 2 sons, Mr. Smith.

Per *Kwanglee*, str., from Shanghai.—Messrs. Matarn and Donald.

Per *Karlsruhe*, str., from Bremerhaven, &c.—Count and Countess Nayhauss, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Hoffmann, Mr. Layard and family, Messrs. Maschke, Quasowski, and C. Schmidt, Miss Hoepfer.

Per *Kriemhild*, str., from Hamburg.—Mrs. Melbye and 2 children, Messrs. Benjamin and Schirmer.

Per *Priam*, str., from Liverpool.—Mr. and Mrs. Weldall and two children.

Per *Manila*, str., for Hongkong from Shanghai.—Mrs. G. Goodward and infant, and Miss A. Brown. From Foochow.—Misses Codrington and Leslie.

Per *Azamor*, str., from Kobe.—Mr. Lhepard.

Per *Phra Nang*, str., from Bangkok.—Mr. Hyndman.

Per *Menmuir*, str., from Sydney, &c.—Hon. J. L. Parsons, Mr. H. Parsons, Capt. and Mrs. De Silva, Mrs. Lemm and 2 children, Mrs. M. Havier, Mrs. G. Madarian, Messrs. T. C. Crane, H. D. Munro, F. Christian, D. Scott, J. Vintura, C. Sangor, and T. McGill.

Per *Lyceemoo*, str., from Chinkiang, &c.—Capt. Nissen, Mr. C. Schmeisser.

Per *Ernest Simons*, str., for Hongkong from Marseilles.—Messrs. Pravioux and E. S. Battemann. From Colombo.—Revs. J. James and Mondeni L. Joseph, Messrs. Chuang Yu Chu, Chuang Woo, Ho Chu, Chaussan Chu, Chuang Yu. From Batavia.—Mrs. and Miss Little, Rev. Adrien Bousgrin, Right Rev. Lettesin, Messrs. Liung Ayoung, Sead Young Woh, S. Kasaki, J. Diedrichsen, Hun Su Choe, Thosomal, Schuang Woi Chu. From Saigon.—Mrs. Tragerolles, Sisters Ignat Jetus and Donation, Messrs. E. Dussutoud, King, Kong, Kuen, Cheong, Mr. and Miss Daluz. For Shanghai from Marseilles.—Messrs. T. A. Clark and Schlewensky, Sisters Lallier Gollak and Hilda Heimbe. For Nagasaki from Singapore.—Mrs. Ohato. For Kobe.—Messrs. Isuke, Oneni, Nogawa, Shibuye, Kosaki. For Yokohama from Marseilles.—Messrs. Coltin, Baizo Agashi, and Nato. From Colombo.—Mr. J. L. Villiers. From Saigon.—Mr. and Mrs. T. Slater, Mr. and Mrs. Forester.

DEPARTED.

Per *Sungkiang*, str., for Manila.—Mr. A. Villeta, Mrs. M. Marti, Mrs. A. Gomez, Mr. J. Kimena.

Per *Khedive*, str., from Hongkong for Singapore.—The New Willard Opera Company. For Colombo.—Mr. G. Gracewood. For Bombay.—Messrs. C. A. Camroodin and B. S. Daboo. For Brindisi.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles McLaren. For London via Marseilles.—Mr. L. M. F. Grant. For London.—Mr. G. A. Main. From Shanghai for Singapore.—Mr. Lee Seck Tong. For Bombay.—Mr. Kin San. For Brindisi.—Capt. O. Rabiger, and Capt. A. Bognitz. For London.—Mr. W. Paton, Mrs. Murphy and child. From Nagasaki for Singapore.—Mr. and Mrs. Ohno. Per *Hohenzollern*, steamer, from Bremen for Yokohama.—Messrs. M. Wegnall, W. M. Powell, Lazava and family, and Miss Loxton. For Nagasaki.—Mr. H. Nielsen. From Hongkong for Yokohama.—Messrs. Ross Thomson, P. Looma, G. Kerkpatrick, Toyo Kan, Ko Kat Sang, Deng See and two children, Lo Dae, and Lee See.

Per *Karlsruhe*, steamer, for Shanghai from Southampton.—Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, Miss Reynolds, Mrs. Morgan and children. From Antwerp.—Mr. J. Smith. From Bremen.—Mr. A. Wacker. From Genoa.—Messrs. C. Schmidt, S. Gumpel, W. Hoffmann and family, F. Maschke, R. Quasowski, C. Dziobek, J. Jahn, B. Friedrich, O. Zarling, W. Meerteens, F. Moller, D. Dettert, A. Brusch, C. Seiba, G. Krause, H. Krone, A. Gomell, E. Detleffs, F. Fressberg, A. Ehse, G. Macom, H. Hoepfer, W. Daniels, F. v. Broew, Count and Countess Nayhaus. From Colombo.—Mr. Leo Nauendorf. From Hongkong.—Messrs. L. Benjamin, D. J. Barradas, Cheong Tai Yau and family, Mr. and Mrs. G. McRub.

Per *Catherine Apar*, str., for Singapore.—Miss Munford, Messrs. W. Garth, A. E. Morgan, S. A. Ezekiel, W. O. Muller, and E. A. Apar, Mr. and Mrs. Chan Shi Tsin, Mrs. Leung So Yee.

Per *Esmeralda*, str., for Manila.—Messrs. J. P. Eagles and S. M. Mears.